



MORNING STAR

NORTH SCOTT SENIOR  
HIGH SCHOOL

FINE ARTS ANTHOLOGY

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# Love is the answer

We are brought here to live, laugh, and love

Love, and you will be loved in return

Its value isn't in seeing, but instead believing

It ain't some object that money could purchase

It shapes the way the heart perceives others

It has a mind of its own

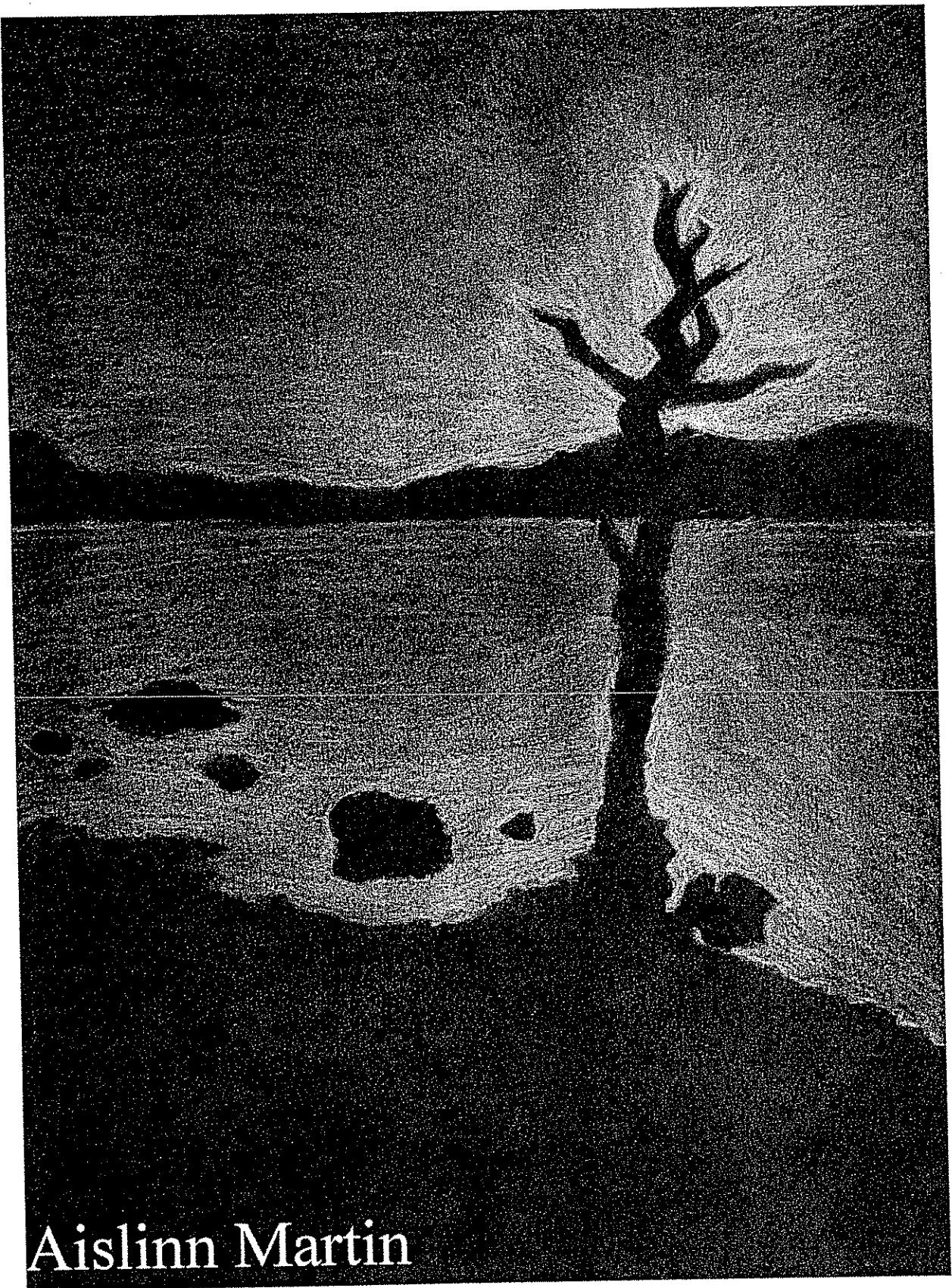
**It brings incredible hope and genuine honesty in a relationship**

Our happiest thoughts are ones of love we sought

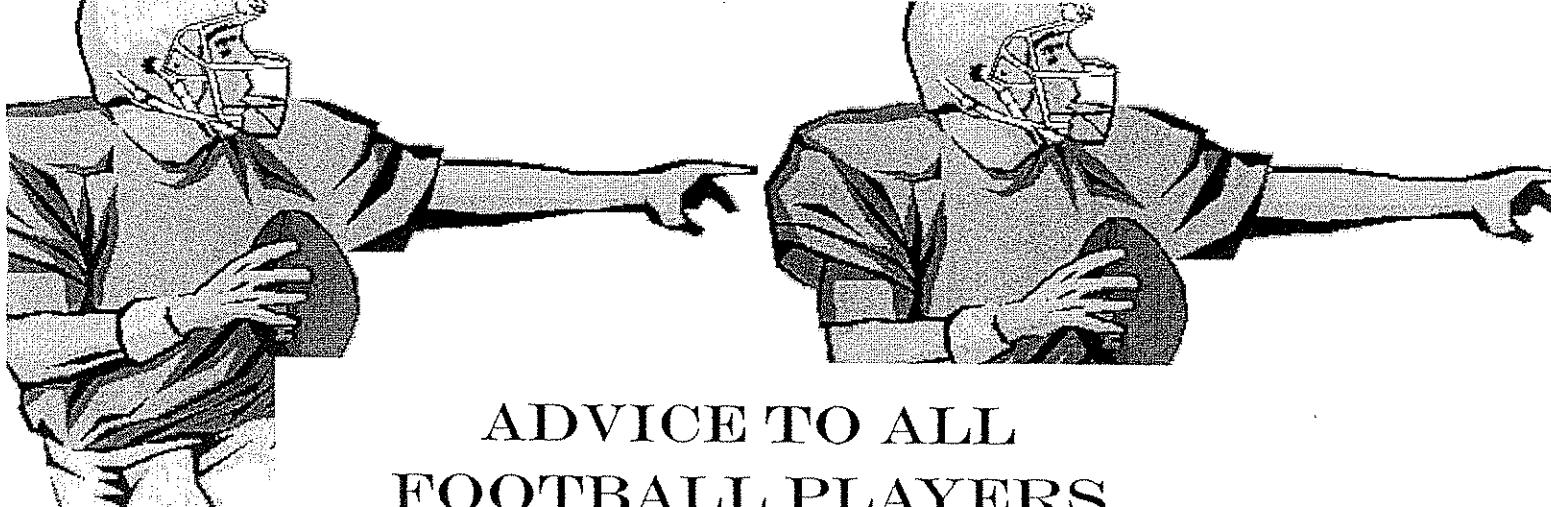
**Believe in love, no matter how scared you may be**

So come and love one another

By Michelle Wedemeyer



Aislinn Martin

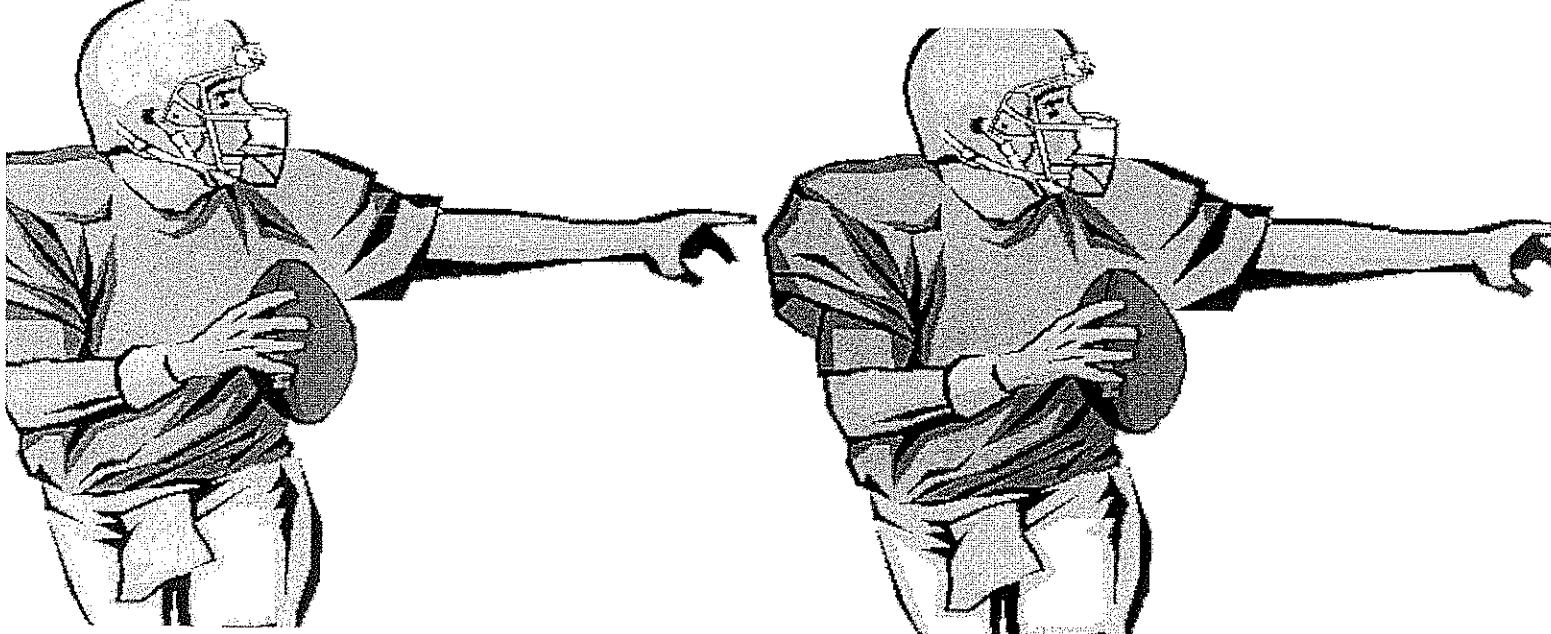


## ADVICE TO ALL FOOTBALL PLAYERS

By: Anthony Isely



Always stay the course and never veer off path, run everywhere and hustle, never expect that anything is owed and that it must be earned, practice like you play, unless of course you have a horrible week of practice then adjust and make up for in the game, the hardest thing to overcome is adversity, the best feeling in the world is overcoming that adversity so aim high and hit low, find something inside that motivates you whether it be family, Faith or simply pride, most importantly never show weakness



# Drumming

Drumming, drumming, drumming  
The drums are humming, humming, humming.  
The rhythms keep coming, coming, coming  
I hear the guitar strumming, strumming, strumming.

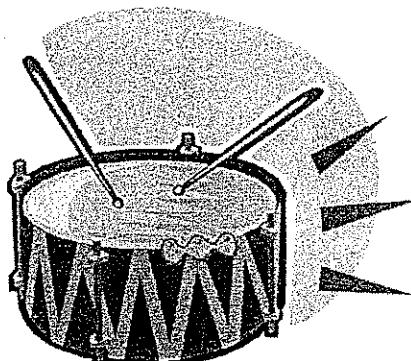
My foot is on the pedal,  
The sticks are nice and round.  
My foot feels the cold metal,  
My sticks are bouncing around.

Drumming, drumming, drumming  
The drums are humming, humming, humming.  
The rhythms keep coming, coming, coming  
I hear the guitar strumming, strumming, strumming.

I hit the snare with force,  
I hear the cymbals start ringing.  
My music is following its course,  
Now, my music is singing.

Drumming, drumming, drumming  
The drums are humming, humming, humming.  
The rhythms keep coming, coming, coming  
I hear the guitar strumming, strumming, strumming.

By: Austin Benson



# I am...

By: Samantha Dickey

I am an invisible woman who is in need of love

I wonder how my future will turn out

I hear voices taunting and tormenting me

I see the world as a different dimension than the one I am in

I want to be loved and cared for by someone

I am an invisible woman who is in need of love

I pretend I am someone else

I feel like I am floating in the clouds

I touch the heart and soul of the one I will someday love

I worry that I shall be forever lonely

I cry myself to sleep when I am unable to understand why I

live this way

I am an invisible woman who is in need of love

I understand that I can't always be dreaming and I need to face

the reality of life

I say that everyone deserves to be loved

I dream of a world where peace, love, and happiness rule

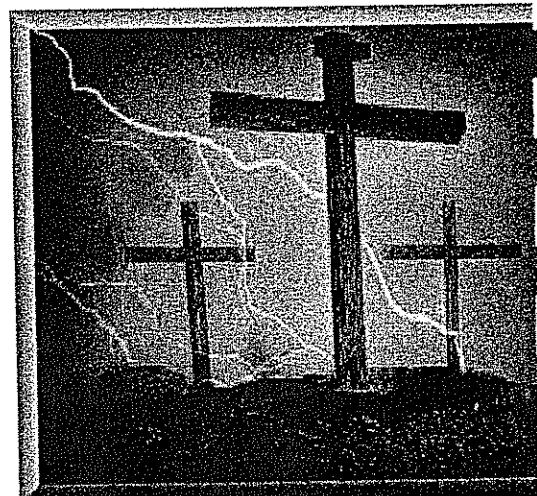
I try to face the world and keep looking forward

I hope that I can be loved for who I am

I am an invisible woman who is in need of love

# Faith By: Ryan Greenwood

Long ago he breathed a loving soul into me,  
And when the first of many long years was just beginning,  
Do you have your ticket for this wondrous performance, called life?  
I cannot see, hear, or touch my God but I know he is always there, do you?  
He give me one life time to become the best I can be,  
He allows me to choose my own path,  
Through him my life is happy, and hopeful and honorable  
I seemed strong and unstoppable when I was young; be soon realized I was wrong,  
He is strong and I am weak in others eyes,  
My heart is kind and loving, but always restless,  
My religious faith is the most filling in the world,  
At times, my life feels like some over turned boulder spilt in half,  
I try hard to wait patiently, and still be a little hopeful,  
I need to learn to let go of the small things with my heart, as he did  
The rising moon tries to cover the helpless world with a blanket of darkness  
Everything seems as it's pinning me down,  
The earth is sick and lost I am with him, find me  
In these dark days of numerous Evil Spirits, he watches over me  
Only my master can detect my true sorrow and happiness  
He'll catch me in his loving, outstretched arms, though it is far,  
I want to go to heaven on day when my time is up,  
Carry me out of here and back into your sheltering arms,  
The last battle of my life was fought,  
The golden sun slowly, as if bathing, setting into the sea of seas.



# I Will Rise Again

By: Allyssa Ramos

The rain, falling on the ground like tears of a restless little girl,  
I had never realized how important she was until she was gone.

If only I had listened to the one who meant the world to me.

“Daddy, why wasn’t I ever good enough for you?”

Only in my dreams will my daughter come back to me.

Searching, as far as I could,  
I wait for the next sign of what to do,  
And still, I will rise again to my feet.

Her last word she said to me was heart-dropping,  
“Bye.”

Am I ready for her to leave for good?

My life is a walking nightmare without the light to my world.

And it was dreadful of me to suffocate her dreams.

Searching, as far as I could,  
I wait for the next sign of what to do,  
And still, I will rise again to my feet.

I have come, searching amongst the path of loneliness

And now I am on my knees, praying,

“God help me; give me the strength to get through this” was my prayer to the Lord.

Searching, as far as I could,  
I wait for the next sign of what to do,  
And still, I will rise again to my feet.

I want to give-up searching, but the Lord gives me strength to continue on.

“I achieved it!” I glorified.

I have broken away from my past,  
Now there is nowhere to hide, but to stand tall.

Searching, as far as I could,  
I wait for the next sign of what to do,  
And still, I will rise again to my feet.

I am still here, my loving daughter, I always will be.

The Lord’s strength will guide you with a strong hand,

And on my daughter’s cheek and o’er her brow sadness flows down.

Fall in love with the love and glory He offers.

Believe it, trust me, and trust Him.

Searching, as far as I could,  
I wait for the next sign of what to do,  
And still, I will rise again to my feet.

# The Desire that is Life

By: Rommel Frank

People create their own obstacles on the journey of life.

Having grazed in grasslands of enchantment, and seen it washed away by rapids of  
betrayal.

For her to steal love with cruel hands and hold fast.

To give a description of how you have my soul.

The old reflection of you, that held my heart, has evaporated.

Misled by the horrid handicap of stupidity that possesses young men.

Now his eyes glare smoldering, his words became fierce.

He stabbed and bounded and lashed, and ravaged the earth.

The demonic truth reflected like a shade of him.

Like scorched wood amidst white foam and bleached sand.

Living in death, the fallen rises from the ashes of its demise.

The alliances that units the world reaches beyond past walls of hate.

Returning to the gentle breeze, a fragile hope is keeping over cratered hills, with dawn  
peaking through.

# The Do's and Don'ts of Freshman Year

## By: Katelyn Tharp

Don't crowd the hallways during passing time; don't cut in the lunch line; don't isolate yourself, meet new people; don't be afraid to try new things, join a team or a club; don't let others make you feel inferior because you may have different interests; and most importantly don't be afraid of change, high school is all about changing and learning to grow into the well-rounded adult you are soon to become. *But I'm scared of what people might think of me;* you want to be involved in school, go to games, plays, sport events and develop school spirit; have good study habits, do your homework; reach out to people and make new friends; be quiet when it is appropriate, but don't be shy; it's ok if you are late to class the first few days, teachers expect that; *but what if I look stupid coming into class late;* it happens to the best of us at one point or another. Overall be willing to accept change and meet new people but don't change yourself negatively just to fit in.

# I AM

## **I am a Bears Fan**

I wonder why anyone would like the Packers  
I hear the ringing of victory coming out of Soldier Field  
I see Urlacher hoisting the Lombardi Trophy  
I want to be there when they win it all

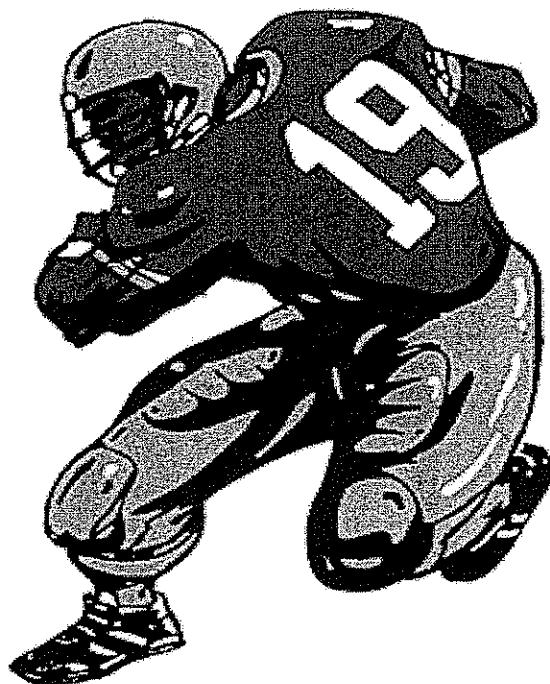
## **I am a Bears Fan**

I pretend Walter Payton is still alive  
I feel the energy the team brings to Chicago  
I touch the remote to turn on the game  
I worry but don't care about Rex Grossman's future  
I cry when they lose, which rarely happens

## **I am a Bears Fan**

I understand it's not 1985 anymore  
I say the Bears are the best in the pros  
I dream about one day playing for the Bears  
I try to watch every game  
I hope all Packer fans suffer

*By: Ryan Greenwood*



xs

upside down



Alyssa Cole

# Through The Wind

*The air that escapes would become serene  
And living pride came to rest  
Lost by what acquired us  
By buffeted breezes*

*The persisting wind shall never cease  
Past terrain boulders and cotton fields  
And pathetic emptiness in its wondering eyes  
And admires your homeliness with love*

*The county of fortune and freeing supply  
A screech of color in an absence of sound  
Meadows of imagination, cautiously I delayed  
Abandoning me with a heart of hate*

*One indefinite monotony of gem  
With no legs or feet beneath them  
Fame or emotion least their love and all is hushed in empty grasslands*

# Never Let Go

## BY ANDREW RUMMUS

Never let go of the one you love for the one you like-the one you like will leave you for the one they love, it's a chain reaction, a chain reaction of: hearts being broken, tears falling off their faces, not being able to think or see straight; all those things come with being in a relationship; always hold her close, never dream of letting her go, boy-wrap your arms around her waist, tell her you never want to let her go, and mean it for God's Sake!; girl-tell him you don't ever want to be out of his arms, and mean it; mean everything you say to that special person, they might be the "right one", stop with all the drama-who says you have to listen to it?; just let them say what they want to, don't listen to anything being said, all it will do is split your relationship apart little by little; *but what if I can't take it anymore, it's too overpowering?*, then converse with her about it, tell her all the drama is taking a toll on you and it's getting hard to handle-she might even feel the same way, work through everything together and hold her close not letting her go; when she runs up to you crying, don't ask what's wrong right away-she'll tell you when the time is right for her, instead hold her close and let her cry on your shoulder; if she pulls away and starts walking, chase after her-most likely she wants you to and she's seeing if you're concerned enough about her that you will, grab her arm and pull her into you, hold her close and never let go; when at a haunted house or watching a bloodcurdling movie; hold her close when she screams and is frightened, don't laugh or tease her for being frightened-girls get scared easily; when she's scared and becomes skeptical of everything people say and what you do, hold her close, remind her that everything is okay and never let go; *what if I'm afraid too?*, tell her your afraid then chances are, she'll like you even more for trusting her with your feelings; girls tend to either show their emotions or hide them easily; boy-figure out which one your girl does more, it'll help you out in the long run, girls-if he ask you about your emotions, don't take offense to it, he wants to know what he needs to look for, ask him the same thing back; most guys won't own up to sometimes becoming emotional so when they do, and they show it, hold him close and never let go; this shows that you care about him like he cares for you; boy-care for her like she's the only girl in your life you want to be with; girl-care for him like he cares for you if not better, hold each other close and never let go; boy-treat her with the same respect as you do your mother; take her to meet your family and make sure you meet hers, shake her dads' hand with a firm grip, looking him directly in his eyes; always look her in the eyes when she talks to you, don't look away till she does; and hold her tight in your arms close to you, never wanting to let go; boy-don't treat her like \$&!% because you're having a bad day; because when she's having a bad day your going to get treated the same way if not worse-girls can be real \$!%@&#\$ at times, girls-stop being \$!%@&# and treat him right, he is a part of you; always keep in mind that soon enough you become a part of her life and that she needs you more than she ever needs anyone else at precise moments; hold her close, remind that she's the only girl in your life, and never let go.

# I Am

I am an optimistic procrastinator.

I wonder what the life of a truly organized person is like.

I hear the waves of remorse when I know I should have  
done my homework yesterday.

I see the light of hope that distracts me from the remorse.

I want to finish everything and not put it off.

I am an optimistic procrastinator.

I pretend that I've been practicing all along for that band  
lesson.

I feel pressured when I have too much to do.

I touch the cold pages of my book, battling the clock for  
every extra minute I can take.

I worry that I won't get everything done when I hope that  
I will.

I cry when I don't have enough time.

I am an optimistic procrastinator.

I understand that procrastinating is bad.

I say I will finish that assignment in time.

I dream of a world with fewer requirements.

I try to finish everything before their deadlines.

I hope I will get better at this.

I am an optimistic procrastinator.

April Weiss



Trey Peterson

# HOW TO PASS HIGH SCHOOL

BY: CAITLYN NASS

Make sure to use class time wisely, or else you'll have a ton of homework and you won't be able to do anything after school like that one time I really wanted to go to the wrestling meet but I had algebra homework and I am *horrible* at algebra so it took me like three hours and we only get five minutes to work in class and I have funny people in my class so we always just talk and don't do anything like today when we kept talking about Perez Hilton, who is also hilarious and everyone always asks if he's related to Paris Hilton, but I don't think he is-but his name kind of sounds like Paris, except it's Perez, which is the last name of a girl named Jenna Perez who went to my old school and one time she picked her nose in class and it was really gross but honestly, who doesn't pick their nose, people just do it in private, which doesn't make it any less gross I guess, but no one sees it...so, anyways, about using class time wisely...

# I Am Poem

I am a Packers fan and a believer  
A wonder when they will win their next Super Bowl  
I hear the roar of the crowd  
I see another Lambeau Leap  
I want more victories  
I am a Packers fan and a believer

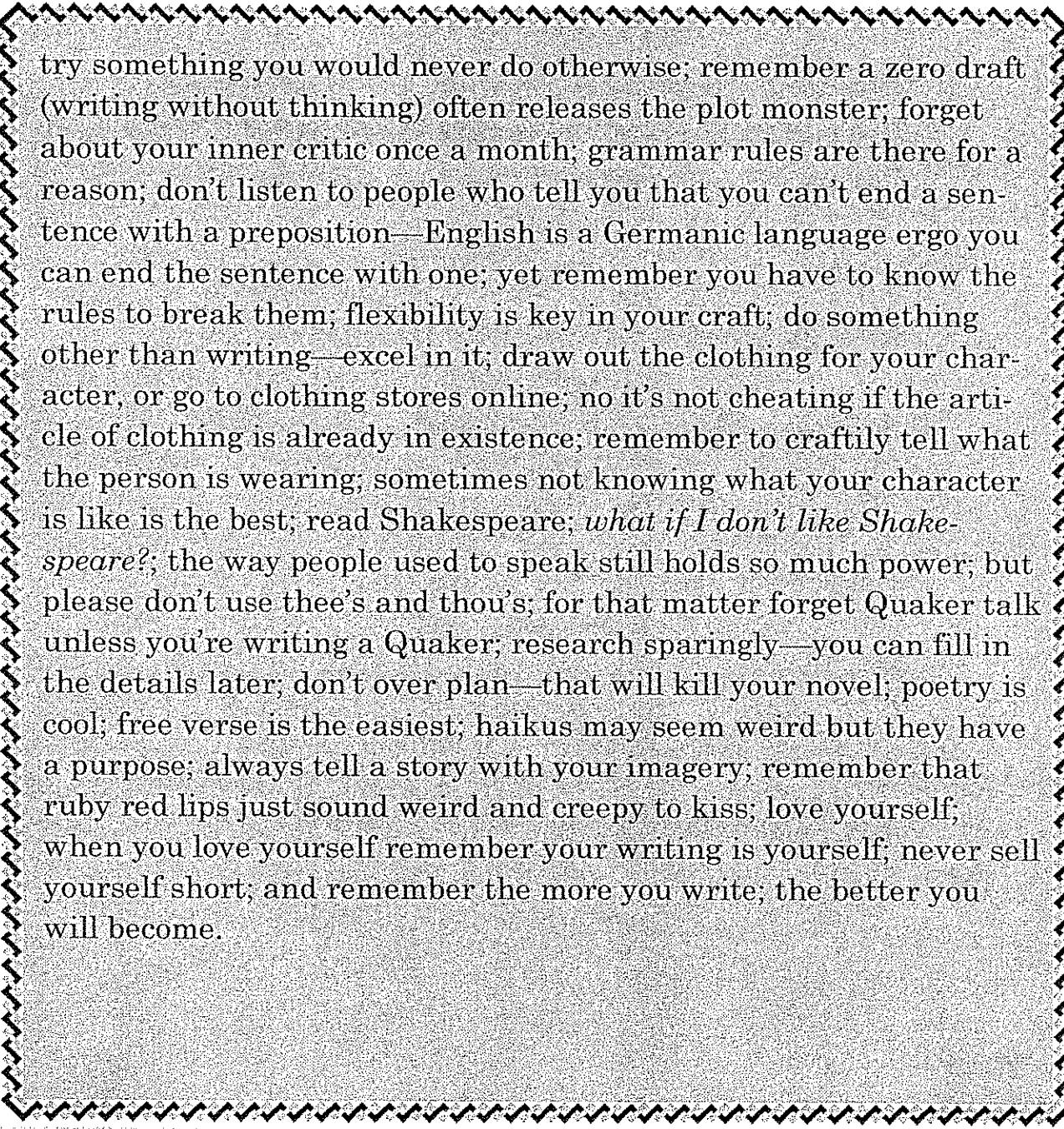
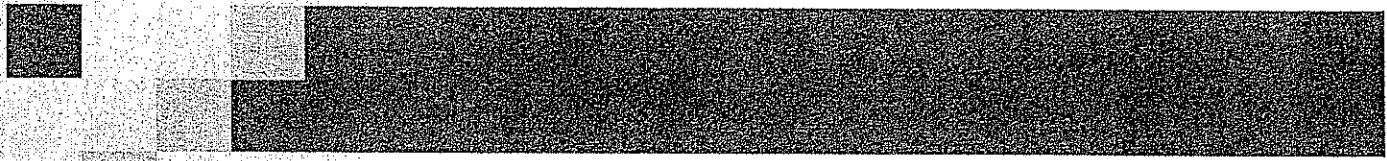
I pretend I don a green and gold jersey every Sunday  
I feel dedicated  
I touch my hands to the sky when the Packers score a touchdown  
I worry they might not make the playoffs  
I cry when they lose championships  
I am a packers fan and a believer

I understand that every game will not be a win  
I say that every game *should* be a win  
I dream of a championship  
I try not to boast when they destroy their opponent  
I hope for the best  
I am a Packers fan and a believer

By: Ben Schroder

## Advice to those dreaming to write

Remember who are you; nothing will change that; your writing should reflect who you want to be, *but what if I don't know what I want to be?*; you'll find the answer—it lies hidden in some mystic place; success is not defined by being published; listen to what you think success is; it's often lurking in finding the perfect word; listen to your parents—they have so much advice to give you; find someone who is a bit older than you to read your pieces; never take yourself too seriously; listen to the criticism but **never** take it at face value; sometimes the greatest things in life cannot be rushed; try National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) at least once; it will definitely get your creative juices flowing; *but what if I don't think I have anything worth saying?*; you will; 50,000 words in a month is doable; don't let word counts scare you; don't let publishers scare you; they don't know the person inside of you; you know what you want to tell; and please show don't tell; people want something original; and if it's not creative or original fake it; most stories are based on the same plot; have your main character have a stutter to increase the word count on NaNoWriMo, remember every great writer started as you did; don't let anyone tell you that you're too young; youth have a unique approach to the world; use that to an advantage; a laptop and Wi-Fi will rock your world later in life; lock yourself in your room every once in awhile, this is why you talking to yourself, "writing is a socially acceptable form of schizophrenia" that doesn't mean you can be crazy one hundred percent of the time; don't forget those that matter to you; find inspiration in the things you know; don't name your character something clichéd; writing circles are pretty cool if only you participate; it's hard work to write; college writing is not as scary as it sounds; you will not live in a cardboard box after you graduate; remember that a creative writing major will help you.



try something you would never do otherwise; remember a zero draft (writing without thinking) often releases the plot monster; forget about your inner critic once a month; grammar rules are there for a reason; don't listen to people who tell you that you can't end a sentence with a preposition—English is a Germanic language ergo you can end the sentence with one; yet remember you have to know the rules to break them; flexibility is key in your craft; do something other than writing—excel in it, draw out the clothing for your character, or go to clothing stores online; no it's not cheating if the article of clothing is already in existence; remember to craftily tell what the person is wearing; sometimes not knowing what your character is like is the best; read Shakespeare; *what if I don't like Shakespeare?*; the way people used to speak still holds so much power; but please don't use thee's and thou's; for that matter forget Quaker talk unless you're writing a Quaker; research sparingly—you can fill in the details later; don't over plan—that will kill your novel; poetry is cool; free verse is the easiest; haikus may seem weird but they have a purpose; always tell a story with your imagery; remember that ruby red lips just sound weird and creepy to kiss; love yourself; when you love yourself remember your writing is yourself; never sell yourself short; and remember the more you write; the better you will become.

## "A Curious Boy in a Lonely World"

Beth Baustian

Beneath the vast and mysteriously black galaxy  
There where the lands remains pure and peaceful  
A young a boisterous boy is chanting a plea for ad-  
venture

Yet not even a cry was sounded, not one merciful note  
"confess that luck and happiness have yearned for  
me!"

Receiving and giving, we trifle with our given bless-  
ings

He begged for sweeter music and purer water  
He discovered that hope is a curious brute which re-  
jects past promises

"If we must live, let us not live as wanderers" says he  
Pessimistic people declare all life will cease in  
darkness

Yet he shuts his eyes and the whole world comes  
alive

What joy the brand new day to me had given.

## How to Succeed at Sophomore Football

By: Ronnie Frantz

Find out the times for summer weightlifting, you do not want to be late; when lifting use proper form; do not overload on the weights when the coach is near, he will make you do a set of ten; this is how to do squat; this is how you do hang clean; this is how to do box squat; this is how you get parallel; this how to do towel bench; this is how to make the thousand pound club; this is how to make white club; this is how to make silver club; this is how to make scarlet club; this is how to impress the coaches; this is how to do “gassers”; this is how to kick a “PAT”; this is how to kick a punt; this is how to throw the ball; this is how to catch the ball; this is how to run the ball; this is how to make a tackle; this is how to chop your feet so you do not miss the tackle; this is how to block a guy from a making the tackle; this is how to stiff arm the guy trying to tackle you; this is how to run for a touchdown; this is how to block a lineman, this is how to “juke out the guy to get around them; this is how to “swim” past a guy; this is how to “rip” through a guy; this is how to “pancake” a guy; this is how to be mentally tough; this is how to keep hydrated; this is how pay though the pain; this is how to not get penalties; this is how to catch an interception; this is how to sack the quarter back; What if coach puts me in a position I do not know what to do? When the coach asks you, reply “I'll be an athlete”; this is how to get on coach's bad side; this is how to get on coaches good side; What if coach will not let me play? If you do all I've told you, you will have to ask coach for a breather.

# WHO AM I?

I am strong yet weak

I wonder what others think when they hear of his sacrifice

I hear the cheers of angels when I am persecuted

I see the second coming and judgment day

I want to be bold

I am strong yet weak

I understand that I don't struggle

I feel the love of my soul stirring throughout me, trying to make a

I understand that I will always be persecuted

I dream of his hands that saved me

~Victoria Hawley

## Carousel

You spin around in circles  
trying to accuse yourself of something  
not there  
and I don't know how to explain it  
other than you're a carousel to compare, myself to.

When I see you spinnin' around in circles  
unable to control yourself anymore  
the disease takes over, you lose your closure  
and you just can't seem to stop  
your carousel

Spinning around and around  
don't know how to touch the ground  
other than to hit it harder than you fell  
and you can't explain it to anyone  
even yourself, so you're making up excuses  
and hiding for your health

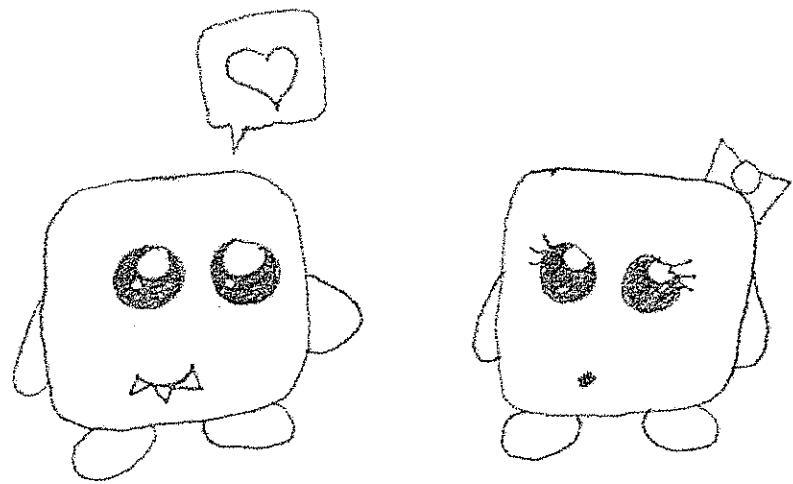
When I see you spinning around in circles  
unable to control yourself anymore  
the disease takes over, you lose your closure  
and you just can't seem to stop  
your carousel

I'm the product of a carousel, spinnin' myself  
around but then I, see you spin around me in circles  
unable to control yourself anymore  
the disease takes over you lose your closure, and you just  
can't seem to stop, your carousel.

Song Lyrics By: Angela Meyer

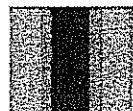
Day to day has been an endless hallway for her  
She glared away from him whenever he ignored her  
The day never without him feeding her lies  
For she felt forgotten and desired a new beginning  
Like a dagger who walks its way into an evil heart  
His dagger is confined in her soul  
Her emotions expand from controllable to unbearable  
Thousands of times we knew she had left to murder him  
She didn't give two damns because he's just a waste of her time  
She enjoyed life without the worry of his  
She felt loved, noticed, and longed for a universe in  
which everyone could be treated as she.

Matt Pacha



Haiku & Memi

Adrienne



# CHRISTIAN

Derek Kupris

Be flawless because people expect perfection; do not sin—people will be shocked; keep shirts tucked in and belts buckled tight; this is how Christians live; do this and *definitely* do not do that; this is the way to disguise faults in public (Christians can not be seen sinning); this is how Christians should keep themselves out of a sinning society; keep a spotless reputation—it is not like God forgives every single sin being committed; this is the way to memorize the whole bible; this is how to pray in an appropriate way, but be careful not to tick off Jesus because he might get offended; *but Jesus wants to be confronted with 100% authenticity*; live by the law and not by His love; this is how to get eternal life; do not get caught up looking at girls below their face; this is what is readable in the bible and what is not readable; this is what can be said in church and what can not be said; go to church every single Sunday— not going will result in a one way ticket to hell; do not watch television that says a cuss word; this is how to not hang out with secular friends; hang out with *only* Christians; *but in the bible God wants people to give Him their sins and be themselves*; when is a Christian going to step up and be in a loving relationship with God instead of a law— bonding partnership?

## HOW TO FALL ASLEEP

A nice warm cup of milk is always a good way to go; put it in the microwave—make sure it's not too hot or you will burn your mouth. I did that once at target one time on their hot chocolate and my mouth hurt for weeks after that. Target has a really good snack bar; my mom and I get slushies there a lot, but they are not nearly as good as the ones at tropical snow—that's gone for the winter now though, so there is no where good to go in Eldridge. *I know, I miss that place!* After drinking your warm milk, go to lay in bed and count sheep; any animal will probably work: dog, cat, gerbil, armadillo, ground squirrel, iguana, or naked mole rat—on the show “Kim Possible”, Ron Stoppable had a naked mole rat named Rufus that helped them save the day. Disney was so cool when I was little. *That's So Raven was the bomb!* Phil of the Future was so interesting—my dad's name is Phil but I like to refer to him as Phillipen because it sounds cooler. If you still can't fall asleep after counting animals, try and read part of a good book: when I was younger my dad used to read stories to me every night—now I just have homework every night (gag me) but I just love English homework! Except, that boy and a girl essay was quite difficult if I do say so myself—every time we talked about at that story it reminded me of a song we're singing for choir called “A boy and a Girl”; if all else fails, I sing it to myself to fall asleep.

I am...

I am strong and complicated

I wonder if I am ever going to be the girl I want to be

I hear the soft voices of people asking me to help them with their  
pain and hurt

I see the tears of frustration falling to the ground

I want everything to be okay for once in my life

I am strong and complicated

I pretend that I can handle all the pressure that I put upon me, and that  
I have a real smile on my face

the stares of people watching and waiting for me to mess up

the desire for me to be strong and that is waiting for me to grab it

the desire for me to be strong and that is waiting for me to grab it

how much pain and hurt we go through

and the

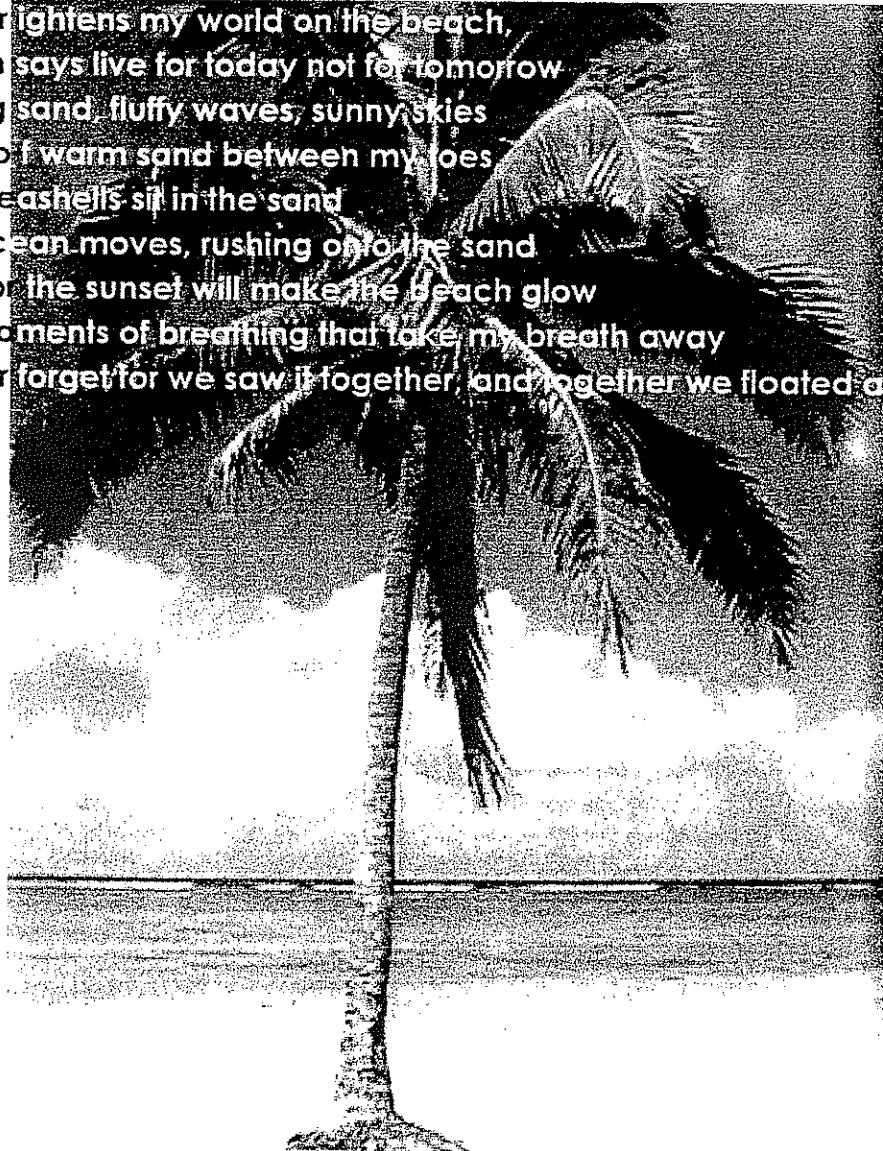
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my  
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## The Beach

By: Grace McCammant

There is no place in the world more wonderful than the beach  
The waves surround me in salt water, I taste in my dreams  
Go there alone or bring everyone you know  
Sunshine glows love, and waves paint the sand  
The beach was more beautiful than I ever believed  
There on the ocean of endless blue I live to see,  
And I'd wish to have the sun shine bright like a smile  
The sunshine brightens my world on the beach,  
And the ocean says live for today not for tomorrow  
I love sparkling sand, fluffy waves, sunny skies  
Or the feeling of warm sand between my toes  
And six shiny seashells sit in the sand  
The way the ocean moves, rushing onto the sand  
I am excited for the sunset will make the beach glow  
It's all of the moments of breathing that take my breath away  
And I will never forget for we saw it together and together we floated away.



# Fantasy Land

What's this blonde child doing here  
Near the place between reality and fantasy,  
Building a world of shining dreams and stories?  
It's the magic children tie a around their hearts and heads.

The tiny child found an adventure  
Running barefoot through dirt streets past friend and foe.  
She entered the valley where children laugh  
And stars danced, shining pure bright light.

The sunlight's dim yet golden kiss  
Hugged the horizon.  
Her emerald eyes sparkled with endless wonder  
From an hour cleverly placed outside of day.

Last year she saw the world  
But fantasy faded quickly.  
The forgotten world lies silent now  
As she becomes an adult.

By: Sarah Riedel

# BE WHO YOU WANT TO BE BY: CRYSTAL ALLEN

Bright blue eye shadow and hot pink pants; who cares what other people think; if you want to wear every color of the rainbow by all means be bright; don't stay inside the lines; break free; dress vibrantly; stay away from the in crowd stores; go to all the thrift shops; Clash! Don't listen when people say your out of style; have you got nothing to do after school because you don't want to be labeled? YOU'RE LAME! Get into some clubs or maybe a sport; now if your into chess, don't stay away from it because you don't want to be called a nerd; Be a nerd! Be proud of who you are and the things your interested in; if you wait to long to join a club or are dumb enough to care about what other people think; you will regret it; *but none of my friends are in them*; if you cant go shopping or even be in any after school activities without the ok from your friends first; boy have we got work to do! You cannot take your friends to college with you; so do not let them pick your classes just so you can be together; branch out try new things; that's what your supposed to do in high school; *but I like being with my friends*; to bad! Learn to grow up; sign up for the talent shows even if your majorly lacking any talents; you will have fun doing them; go to at least one of the school dances; do you really think it is ok to sit and watch? It is not a sporting event; Get off your ass and start dancing! Stop changing yourself just to be liked by other people; in then end your true friends are the ones who like you the way you are.

# I AM...

I am a dedicated lover of literature

I wonder about the author's point

I hear the languages and dialects that describe the characters

I see the images painted by the author's words

I want to meet the characters

I am a dedicated lover of literature

I pretend I am involved with the story

I feel and share the emotions

I touch the worn pages

I worry my questions will go unanswered

I cry with the characters

I am a dedicated lover of literature

I understand that all good things must come to an end

I say I will read forever

I dream about living in the story

I try to detect the twist in the plots

I hope it will end the way I want

I am a dedicated lover of literature

—Carrie Kilen



"FOOLS RUSH IN"

SKYLAR ALEXANDER MOORE

# Playing Around

By: Juliann Dickey

Playing tug of war.  
Don't let go.  
Dominate force.  
Touch face to the ground.  
Tone, Body Language, Contact.  
Tug! Keep Tugging!!  
Lower yourself.  
JUST LET GO!!  
Phase out and runnnnnnn!

## Light us. Dark

By: Sara Butcher

Once upon a daytime delight, while he listened, strong and bright  
A seraph was slaughtered, by this annihilator identified as Death  
Its' blood still burns in the depths of Hell  
So light the fires, silver birth

Shall the universe be devoted to you, Death?  
Shall the first-born of Hell be acknowledged by a holy light?  
For these minions of yours have been troublesome, Death  
In this end of our long treacherous journey

To him your demise is approaching and insignificant  
As Light struggles to hold Darkness away  
While they sing alongside these casualties  
In this eternal dance of angels and demons

Blame not only Death, but implore the Angels, that I must fade  
This spread of destruction, a burning sensation  
"Where to?" Death tempted, collectively, hunting  
As He finishes this cheerful cry

Death is always the beginning of the end  
He listens to little of the change  
Somehow, in this isolation  
Death teaches us, Angels and Demons

## *Advice to a Sibling Entering High School...*

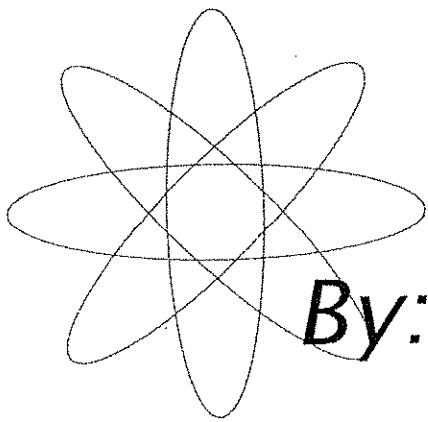
*By: Kayla Kaasa*

Always carry your planner and ID; don't be scared of upperclassmen, they won't bite...usually; don't wear inappropriate clothing, you'll set a bad impression; try to memorize your locker combo, so then you won't have to write it on your hand like everyone else; pay attention on the first day, not everything will be important but there will be rules to pay attention to; wait your turn in the lunch line, you will get to eat, cutting doesn't help anyone; don't take offense when people call you a stupid freshman, they were all called that at one point too; remember not to stand in the middle of the hallway, it blocks the halls and gives the upperclassmen an even better reason to call you a stupid freshman; all those rumors you hear about the upperclassmen being mean and pushing people into lockers and trash canning them, aren't true... ignore them and just be yourself; *what if people don't like me*; people will like you all of your friends will be there and you will have classes with new people so you can make new friends; always try your hardest, keep your grades up and try to stay clam during hectic situations; there will be drama but try to keep our of it; stay away from boys (girls)... I'm kidding... try to make friends I know the opposite sex may still have cooties but that is no reason to keep away from them; *but what if I like someone*; talk to them, try to make friends, and then see where the relationship goes; *what if they break my heart*; some will and some won't, it's up to you to find out; that's what high school is all about trying new things; try the hard classes they may be challenging but in the end they will help you to become more mature; take a foreign language, it may take up more time but it will help you in college and then you may be able to visit fun places when you are older; *what about after school activities*; do a lot of them, the more activities you get involved in the more opportunities you may have in the future; just because you are in band does not make you a geek, they are a fun and promotional way to show school spirit; *but what if I get made fun of*; don't pay any attention, they mock because they are jealous; go to as many school functions as possible they are great places to hang out with friends and meet new people; there may be people who will disrespect you. Don't pay any attention to them and remember there are always people to go to for help with your problems, don't keep them inside— find ways to let them out; *but what if I don't know what to do*; I'll always be there for you don't forget that, there are a lot of things you may not understand but as an older sister it is my job to help you; it is also my job to make sure that you have fun in high school, as well as to make sure you don't get yourself into too much trouble, but remember high school will be full of fun and change, just walk in and brace yourself for things to come...



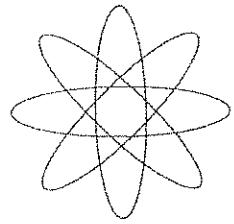
"SEAFOAM"

SKYLAR ALEXANDER MOORE



# *I Am*

## *By: Katelyn Tharp*



**I am a vivacious, caring individual**

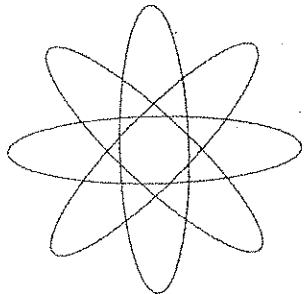
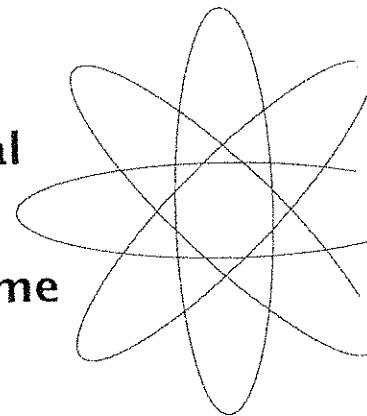
**I wonder is everyone the same**

**I hear laughter in the distance**

**I see struggles in their eyes**

**I want peace in this world**

**I am a vivacious, caring individual**



**I pretend the world is as lively as me**

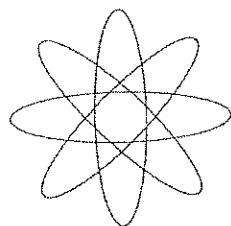
**I feel like jumping for joy**

**I touch those around me**

**I worry for those who aren't**

**I cry for the ones who don't feel**

**I am a vivacious, caring individual**



**I understand that life has its ups and downs**

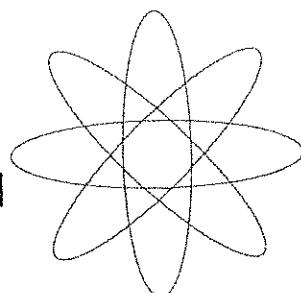
**I say live life to the fullest**

**I dream about tomorrow**

**I try not to wish life away**

**I hope for the best**

**I am a vivacious, caring individual**



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By Darion Schaefer

How her life seemed a nightmare  
That was just too dark for her  
So she abandoned the thorns of our blossoming society  
With every strand of her soul

She out ran the furthest city limit and  
I wondered if she would ever come back to me  
Breaking a morning that's wondrously unclear  
There is an end where the world falls into disrepair

She is no more a child and what she sees  
These thoughts she just can't control  
Because her heart is the strongest thing

She seemed to hate such attention, a shame no one made her happy  
Maybe it's the hair that shines as the stars  
Maybe it's the ice in her eyes

In her he had drowned a naïve girl and built himself the perfect woman  
Her wrenching sobs from the eyes of her restricted spirit

Of the tears that ran down her angel face  
Brought forth with a demon of her past  
Were full of overwhelming madness

Because she could never stop Death.

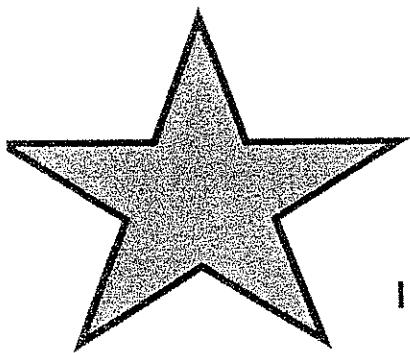


## You and Your Horse

By: Alaina Hill

Always be sure to pay attention; your horse is the reflection; if you could look in a mirror and see your soul; you want to know who a person is; look at their horse; your companion if you will it; or your enemy if you provoke it; you take care of them they will take care of you; herd animals, if you become a part of the herd you become a part of them; if you become a part of them they will protect you; give and take what you will; your horse protects you and you protect your horse; keep them fed and keep them watered; very social animal, give them company; you can not always be around them; give them a companion; another horse, a goat, a sheep, a cow, maybe a miniature horse; whatever works for them, and whatever is affordable for you; keep them sheltered in the winter; put them

out to pasture in the spring, summer, and fall; put them in a stall in the winter; if you do not have a stall throw out plenty of hay; grain them every night; no grass for them to graze on in the winter; when keeping them in the stall during the winter turn them out for a while every day to let them get exercise; the horse has too much energy to spend in a stall all day; if you are a tall person you will need a tall horse; make their looks compliment your looks; if you are feminine take a feminine horse; if you carry yourself with pride your horse should do the same; if you are a giant you will not want a dainty mare; you will want a large gelding or stallion; *what if the stallion is still not large enough because of his breed?*; then look to a draft horse or a draft horse mix if need be; if you are five foot six or taller try a horse that is at least 14.2 hands; if you are above six feet tall then you may need a horse around 16 hands or taller depending on how broad you are; remember, your horse needs to be able to carry your weight; it is not wise for a man of six feet to ride a teeny weenie pony.



I am

By: Grace McCammant

I am a swimmer, a human fish.

I wonder what it would be like to be a fish.

I hear the sound of the water rushing around me.

I see the clear blue water all around me.

I want to swim forever.

I am a swimmer, a human fish.

I pretend to be a dolphin.

I feel the shock of the cold water when I jump.

I touch the wall with my fingertips.

I worry about getting water up my nose.

I cry when the water burns my nose.

I am a swimmer, a human fish.

I understand it is hard work.

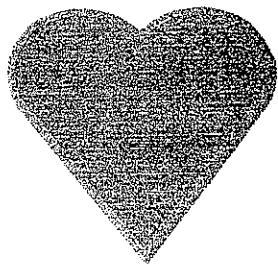
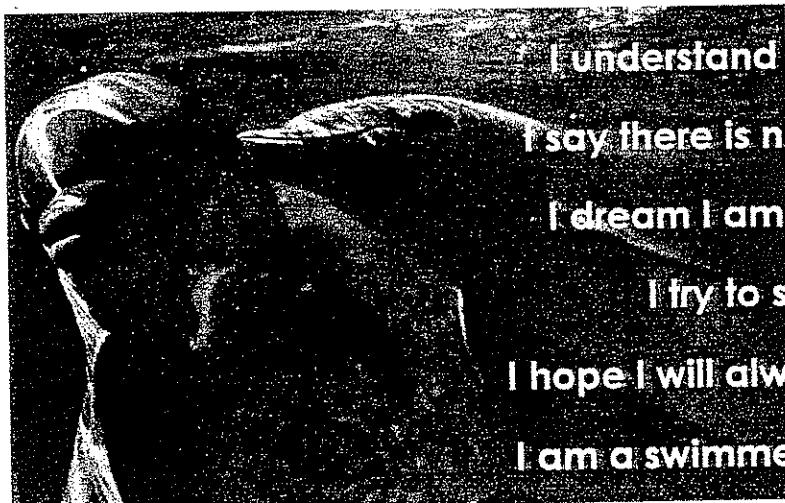
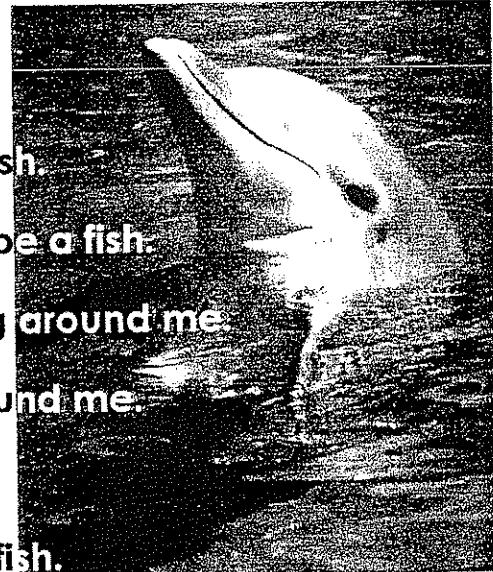
I say there is no better sport.

I dream I am a mermaid.

I try to swim fast.

I hope I will always love to swim.

I am a swimmer, a human fish.



# Where the Rain Never Stops

I am a glass mirror and I am overly observant.  
I wonder about the future and of the past.  
I hear voices everywhere, giving me judgment.  
I see the stairs I've climbed and those that are still ahead  
I want my freedom, especially from those I lost.  
I am a glass mirror and I am overly observant.

I pretend to be something I'm not, viewing the world  
around me as a glass orb that's ready to shatter.  
I feel the pains of stabbing in my back from where  
invisible daggers struck me.  
I touch real things but see the fantasies I yearn for.  
I worry about lost pieces that are not longer there.  
I am a glass mirror and I'm overly observant.

I understand not everyone can be trusted and not  
everyone is perfect,  
I say to give second chances to those who deserve it,  
but never more than once.  
I dream of happier days where the rain never stops.  
I try to be a good person and to hide my demon  
within.  
I hope to see the future with eyes unclouded by hate.  
I am a glass mirror and I am overly observant.

By: Sara Butcher

# WHO AM I?

I AM DILIGENT AND DEDICATED  
I WONDER IF I HAVE THE ABILITY TO SUCCEED  
I HEAR THE FANS, THEIR BEAT OF THEIR CHEERS  
FORM THE POUND OF MY HEART  
I SEE THE END RESULT, THE WIN, AND THE GRIN  
I WANT TO OVERCOME DOUBTS  
I AM DILIGENT AND DEDICATED

I PRETEND THAT I AM ON THE PODIUM WITH THE  
CHAMPIONSHIP RING  
I FEEL THE EXCITEMENT IN MY BONES, THE ADAMANT'S RUSH-  
ING THOUGH MY FINGERS  
I TOUCH THE GLORY OF VICTORY AND THE TEARS  
I WORRY THAT I WILL NEVER AGAIN FIND A  
"HAS BEEN"  
I CRY OVER SMALL MISTAKES  
MY FUTURE  
I AM DILIGENT AND DEDICATED

I UNDERSTAND THAT I MUST FIGHT AND WORK FOR  
WHAT I WANT  
I SAY THAT I WILL SUCCEED  
I DREAM OF CONQUERING DOUBTS  
I TRY TO BE THE ONE THAT GIVES 100% EVERY TIME I  
STEP ON THE COURT  
I HOPE TO LOOK BACK AND REMEMBER THE SACRI-  
FICE  
I AM DILIGENT AND DEDICATED

~ VICTORIA HAWLEY

We Love  
By: Samantha Dickey

We fly with our love as the doves fly in the sky  
We watched them as they disappeared, goodbye

We thought love to be striking

We set love going like a clock tower chiming



We gave each other our hearts

We love; with love that burns

We are at the stage where there is desire between us

We still believe our love



We among other things make our love all embracing

We brought love to a never land

We bade love welcome; yet our hearts drew back

We worship that of love over the rainbow

We saw the ring, shinning bright

We now-My love! Shinning love!-awaken



We love as we are

We love on the lips, as we touch

We love in truth, with our hearts we show

We love all, it is a heartbeat or tears



We make love seem eternal, you and I

We serve by our love, so savagely dark

We told love to never come

We kiss like the highest mountain kisses heaven



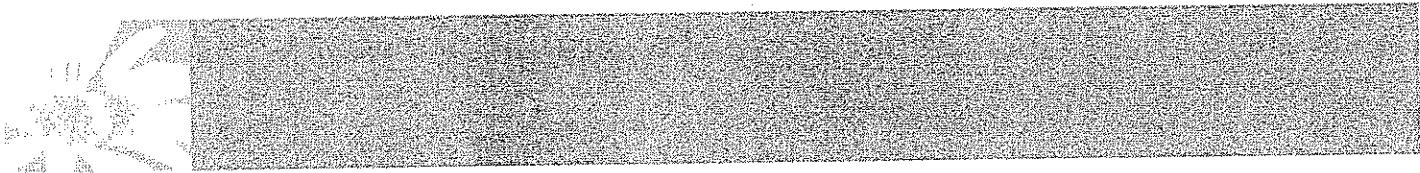
Phillip Aas



By: Sara Butcher

# How to deal with backstabbers

Whatever you do don't cry: if you do run around in circles; forgetting about them is hard but is necessary: chin up and – *what if you see them everyday?* Ignore them. Listen to music to keep you mind from wondering: make new friends: laugh a lot: pretend you don't care: only tell your closest friends your real thoughts, number one rule: whatever you do don't talk to friends of the backstabbers, they will end up telling the backstabbers whatever they told you: follow what you believe in, don't lie and don't be too showy- *how can you be showy and what if you have no choice but to lie?* Lying will make everything worse and will make you look like a freak; then being showy will also make you look like your trying to hard and will give them the victory of hurting you: backstabbers generally don't care what happens to their victims and then again they don't even realized they hurt someone; moving on is a very difficult thing to do after being hurt but trust me it is something that will make you stronger.



## Some Things About Me. . . .

Beth Baustian

I am happy and confused

I wonder about most everything around me

I hear optimistic chatter fluttering around me

I see through optimistic eyes that are hopeful and look forward towards the future.

I want sunny days that shine onward over green pastures

I am happy and confused

I pretend that nothing is ever dreary

I feel somewhat insecure and stupid as I share this poem

I touch the dark side of life, but the shining light of truth overtakes it (that was deep)

I worry that tomorrow won't be as nice as today

I cry when I think of people punching me in the face.

I am happy and confused

I understand not everything is pleasant

I say smile, be happy!

I dream of a place where everything has a future including little baby animals that get shot by hunters! (I hate hunters)

I try to understand what others are trying to say

I hope that I can continue living my life with truthful happiness!

I am happy and confused.



# THE BLOOD

She is scared. She is nervous. When she gets hurt she cries and cries. When she cries her tears are like blood. Her pain from the thorns on the roses spears her hands over and over again. She tries to put them down but the roses would not leave her hands. So the thorns kept piercing her hands over and over. She cries with pain and the site of blood. She wants to let the roses go but the rose's just stick to her hands. She begs for mercy but the roses will not let go. She tries to throw her hand to the wall to try to let the roses go but the roses will not leave her hand. The white roses know red from the blood of her hands. She is crying from the pain of the thorns piercing her hands. She tells the

roses to just let go. The thorns of the roses just stick to her hands. Once they were white but know they are all red. The blood just drips and drip from her hands. The bloods from her hands have now grown a puddle on the ground. She tries to lift her hands but the roses don't give away. The roses just stick to her hands and she wants to let the roses go right know. The roses will not give a way no matter how strong she is. No matter what she does to try to let them go or get rid of the roses. She wants the roses to be gone. The blood just drips as she moves threw the room. She wishes that she could disappear because of the pain. She does not want to be around here because of the pain that the roses are

putting her in. The thorns just keep stabbing her hands. She throws her hands in to the air hoping that the roses leave her hands. As she throws her hands in to the air the blood goes all over. People walk by and look at her with no concern for her life. She asks for help but no one will help her. The people just keep passing her. They just stare. She starts to cry even more. Not from the pain but of her emotion. She has no clue what to do with her life. She is losing lots of blood and she might die. She starts to run. As she is running the blood runs from her hands. She finally falls to the ground. Still no one helps her poor fearful life.

By: Julianne Dickey



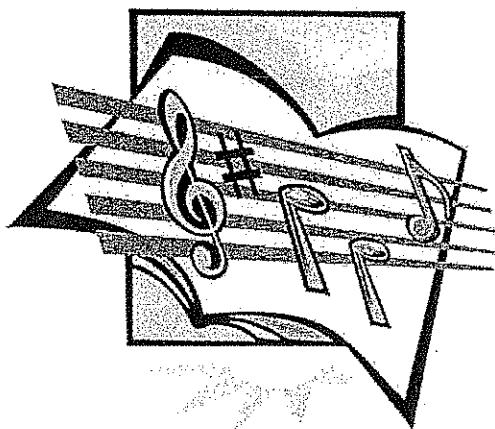
# Music

By: Kelsey Meier

The most enchanting and versatile language  
The twisting turns of notes, rhythms, cadences,  
legato mellow tones, and staccato accents.  
The language of all people and all countries-  
**MUSIC.**

More than just sounds, more than just words.  
Music is the connection between all souls.  
The beautiful, terrible, amazing masterpiece-  
**MUSIC.**

The rise and fall of notes express feelings better  
than any thousands of words. The great translator-  
**MUSIC.**



## What it Takes to be a Cubs Fan

Always watch or listen to the game whenever possible; Ron and Pat make the greatest duo of radio announcers ever; make time for the game, and plan other activities around that time; understand that you may never live to see another Cubs World Series victory, but also understand that there is no other team in America like that Chicago Cubs; never let anybody else tell you that their team is better than your; the Cubs are the Cubs, and they have to understand that; plan at least one Wrigley Field game to attend each year; while at the same time understanding that you may or may not get a win from your team while there; although this may seem unimaginable, never bring your pet goat to the game; try to imagine that October day in 1945 never happened, and that curses are not for real but if they were, this one tops them all; always cheer for whoever is on the mound for the Cubs no matter who that player may be; cheer extra hard for that same player when he is facing the Cardinals; although he may be the best pitcher in the National League, the Cubs usually find a way to make the worst of certain situations; like playing the Cardinals; remember that there is always next year; another year, another team, the same dream; the next year may be the year so stay committed and do not ditch the Cubbies; *but the Cubs never win after September*; it does not matter, stay true and loyal until the end; understand that other curses like the black cat and Steve Bartman have nothing to do with the Cubs playoff downfall; although it was a black cat scurrying around Ron Santo in the on deck circle in 1969, that was the past and this is the present; there was always a next year and there still is today; since that moment Cubs fans have preached that saying 40 times and are still loyal to their team, so why can't you; remember that someday it will happen; place a certain area in your soul and heart for that very moment when the Cubs do indeed win the World Series; and more than anything, be proud about being a Cubs fan;

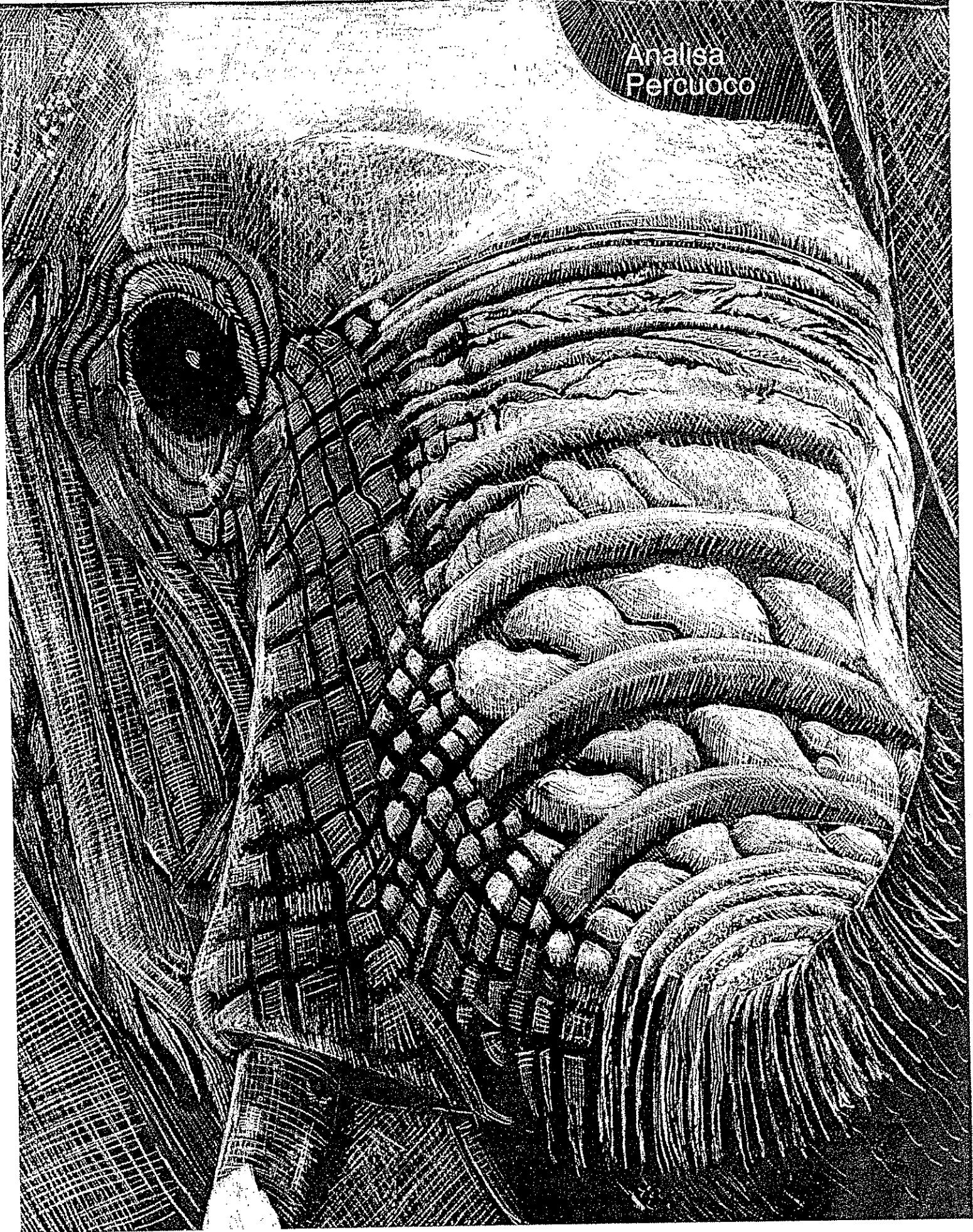
By: Darren Dillon

# I AM...

I AM A NORTH SCOTT  
GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER.  
I WONDER IF COACH WILL  
PUT ME IN.

I HEAR THE SCREAMING CROWD.  
I SEE THE BALL I JUST KICKED SOARING INTO THE GOAL. I WANT TO WIN THIS GAME. I AM A NORTH SCOTT GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER. I PRETEND I'M NOT TIRED. I FEEL THE SWEAT DRIP DOWN MY FACE. I CRY OVER OUR LOSS. I AM A NORTH SCOTT GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER. I UNDERSTAND WE TO WORK AS A TEAM. I SAY WE CAN DO IT. I DREAM OF WINNING STATE. I TRY TO GET CLOSER TO THAT GOAL EACH DAY. I HOPE WE CAN WIN IT ALL. I AM A NORTH SCOTT GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER.

By  
MARIANNE  
HART



Analisa  
Perduoco

Sunrise

Nature was my comfort as a child  
As I watched daybreak from the balcony.

The light lit the overwhelming night, Hiding the moons  
With the heat of joyful sunshine. The mild hues of the morning  
Dripped away on the winds of hopefulness in an unidy tightening swirl.  
fog

The shining creek gurgled through the woods Between the bright  
gardens. Comfort crept closer like the sunshine of summer.  
Summers  
swaying  
are unique and cheerful. They do not linger near solemn winters.

The warm dawn taught me to walk into the lives of others And give the light of hope to the earth.

By April Weiss

# A MIDNIGHT AT DAWN

Running from safety on their damaged arms; shut open doors.

This freezing ice thou will give away, and push away the wrong so short and bleak

Once a nightmare did put darkness over my angel guarded-slumber.

From in, to out, from dusk till dawn can fear this bellows take drier.

I see the snow, I see the west control flying under a cloud.

The lakes flow with the stream, and the sun with the moon.

At midnight I had once been up Italian grey mountains high.

It was the way she sat on the high mountain, staring at her self, with watching eyes.

By the light of the evening moon that shone through the clear glass window.

The waves are gentle, the lion is calm.

With old fish boats and see blue tidal waves.

Barren shores, and the mighty crash of waves on ten thousand caverns.

Waves were gently rolling over water.

The ocean, that amidst as with tidal waves and ye smell gentle breeze off the ocean

But he chanced one day to win away from a bullet made of led that was dragging him down.

He crumpled up his lessons and swam towards the shore that guaranteed freedom.

The last wave crashes revealing enthroned greatness in his splendor.

The moon is full this summer night the stars are covered yet bright.

By: Jake Garnette B-3

# I AM

By Caitlyn Nass

I am enigmatic and abstruse.

I wonder if the world will ever see peace.

I hear the sound of drums, of the universe keeping perfect time.

I see our culture descending into darkness and obscurity.

I want my life to be significant, complete; to help people.

I am enigmatic and abstruse.

I pretend to be wrapped in the strong arms that keep me safe.

I feel the picket sign in my hand, ready to protest confinement and death.

I touch the ropes that try so hard to contain me.

I worry that I'm going to die with no one to remember me.

I cry for people who live in poverty, or in enslavement.

I am enigmatic and abstruse.

I understand that I have a purpose, I just don't know what it is yet.

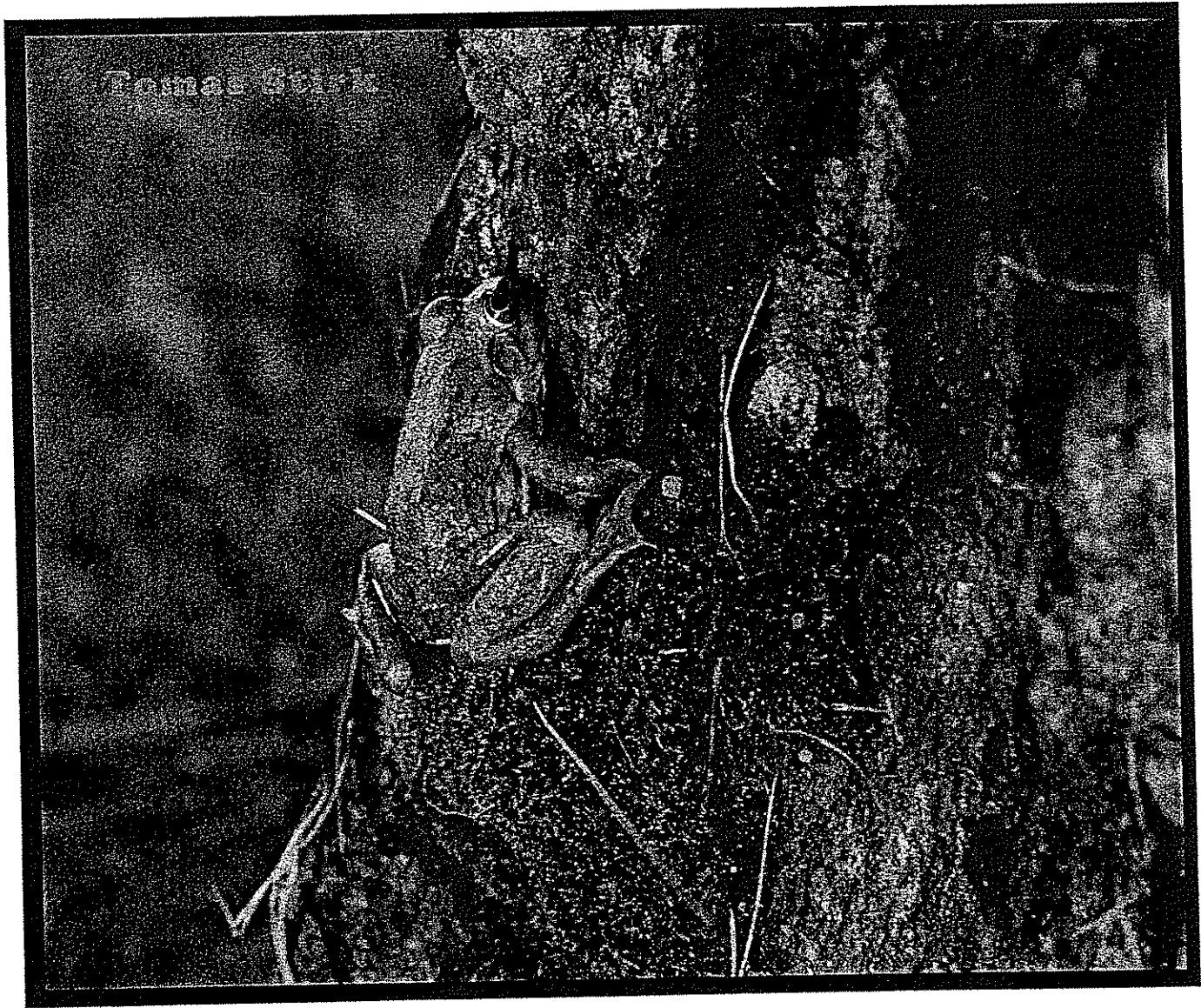
I say that I don't care what other people think, but that's a lie.

I dream of a heaven, a place where there is no more suffering.

I try to make sense of this intangible mess of a world.

I hope someday we can all obtain personal happiness and peace.

I am enigmatic and abstruse.



# Just Be Healthy!

## Beth Anne Baustian

Some people have no idea how to take care of themselves they don't know how to limit their M&M intake to half a cup but rather they scarf a whole bag which in a way could be an enjoyable experience but the problem is afterwards you feel like a Biggest Loser Contestant (no offense to biggest loser contestants) or maybe you don't even like M&M's but you really like chips this is also trouble, let me tell you when the back of the Lay's potato chip bag says "betcha can't eat just one" it isn't to challenge you to a war of "who can eat the most chips" which brings me to my next point of apples which are much better tasting and altogether classier than chips because apples signify wholesome dignity and smartness while chips stand for fat, lonesome, stupid loser or perhaps not that extreme but you should be able to get the idea of how you should chose different foods and exercise which are really important because exercising is the root of the all healthy people they begin their days usually with perhaps a brisk run (but I can't run!) well then go for a brisk walk just don't sleep in and refuse to participate in any activity or you could sign up you lazy self for a school activity such as cross country but I really wouldn't recommend that because cross country is possibly the most painful sport ever to exist but however you can eat a lot of food after you have practice and you can even eat five cookies and a Mcflurry after you run a meet but I would really not recommend that either because you will feel very disgusting for three days afterwards exactly or maybe not exactly but that was simply my estimation the point is don't eat cookies and a Mcflurry after you run a cross country meet and if you choose to don't complain about how fat you are afterwards because frankly I don't care but I do care that you make the right choices about your health or actually I really don't but that particular statement sounds appropriate to end this random flow of consciousness.

# HUMAN

I am bones and skin

Human, like you.

I wonder how perfection is defined

I hear the voice of my conscience being drowned out by the voice of my enemies.

I see strange hands tempting and beckoning to my curiosity.

I want to reach out and touch them, be led into the unknown.

Yet I don't.

I am bones and skin.

Human, like you.

I pretend to be someone else just for my amusement.

I feel the weight of the world.

And Mars at times...

I touch the people around me, doubting they even feel it.

I worry that I will fall at the top.

I cry when everything is gone,

And when it comes back.

I am bones and skin.

Human, like you.

I understand that it is impossible to know exactly what to expect.

I say that life is fleeting, too short to be ungrateful.

I dream of the "perfect" world that will never exist.

I try to be nothing but what I am.

I hope.

I am bones and skin.

Human, like you.

by: Aislinn Martin

Love:

The Chemical Breakdown

Helium:

The sound of voices cracking for the first time.

Bismuth:

Innocently taking your hand in mine.

Lithium:

Batter powered, going on forever.

Calcium:

Never getting enough, no, not ever.

Lead:

Why do you always get to take the lead?

Arsenic:

What I want, but the last thing I need.

Iron:

Your place is in the home, you say.

Chlorine:

An excuse for stinging eyes, you say.

Copper:

Am I not worth two cents, same as you?

Manganese:

Knees dirty from kneeling, begging you.

Sodium:

Salt in the wound, always making it worse.

Sulfur:

A rotting stench—do I look like your wet nurse?

Gold:

Silence is; following the rule.

Silver:

I'm growing older every day.

Mercury:

Quicksilver—got to get out of here

Right now.

*-Skylar Alexander Moore*



Tomas Šík

## The Football Game

Derek Kupris

Everyone's voice roared!

The stadium's energy grew immensely.

Every fan's eyes locked on to the quarterback.

A linebacker came bull-rushing in to sack the quarterback.

Body built like a boulder.

Fans lost in the moment.

Breathing stops like it is being shot dead.

The quarterback delivers the pass, while dodging the flying linebacker.

Focus of the receiver is unbroken—even with defenders.

Failing to catch it, the blazing football rifles off his fragile fingertips.

All emotions stun as they see what has been done.

Every second feels like a year.

On his back, the receiver lays paralyzed in disbelief.

With no time left, the scoreboard reads a horrific 14-19.

The stadium's sound erupts with screams of joy and grief.

No harmony, but chaos rather.

Slugging off the field, the losing players go into their locker room.

The coach does not pray with lips of joy.

For another year, grief will be motivation to win once again!

Outsider  
By:  
Grayson Schmidt

Who can tolerate this much?

Not being able to remember your home,

Or all the people

Nothing is the way it once was

The friends I once had were like strangers

They thought I was the strange one

This once familiar place was now unrecognizable

It was a whole new world

I was an outsider;

Surrounded by small animals,

Scared of anything different

It was as if change was a 4-letter word

Yet it still felt like home

It was a new place yet the same place;

They were new faces yet the same faces

It all soon would be normal again

As time passed, these faces became more familiar to me;

This place became home

I was accepted for who I was

There was finally a feeling of belonging

## Advice for the Male Species

By Michelle Wedemeyer

Manners matter; treat your girl with respect; open doors for her; if you make a promise, keep it; us girls love to be held; holding hands is a must; don't be rude to her when your around your friends; being late is not appreciated; compliments are welcome; don't tell her she's hot, tell her she's beautiful; tell her she's gorgeous when she's wearing sweats; hug and comfort her when she's down; cuddle with her; don't ever lie; *But I don't want to hurt her*; we rather hear it from you, then finding out from someone else; if you don't have trust, then you don't have anything; hold her close, like you never want to let go; tickle her, even if she tells you to stop, because she secretly likes it; make us laugh; make us smile; keep the guy talk for the guys; if she wants to dance, dance; kiss her as much as possible; we like that whole 6 pack thing; attention is nice, but clingy is not; if your gonna use the L word, don't just say it, mean it; call just to say how much you love her and miss her; kiss her on the forehead; don't be a pig; being a lil jealous is cute, but don't control her every move; give her your sweatshirt to wear; don't diss her friends; never ever forget her birthday; gifts are nice, but it's really the thought that counts; drop by her house just to say hi; don't keep secrets from us; if something's wrong, tell us; a lil sensitivity now and then doesn't hurt; let her play with your hair; defend her; love her for who she is, not just based on looks; if she's cold, hold her tight; make her dinner; *I can't cook*; we'll be happy you tried; wipe her tears if she's crying; if you see something is wrong, don't settle for the, "I'm fine" response; call just to say goodnight; don't dump your girl just to see what else is out there, because if you truly care about her, you'll never want to leave her; Remember, if you don't treat your girl right, she'll move on to someone else.



**Tomas Stirk**



# I am

I am optimistic and nervous.

I wonder how hard I will have to push myself.

I hear all of the negative comments.

I see the success I can achieve,  
if I work hard enough.

I want to accomplish my goals, whatever it takes.

I am optimistic and nervous.

I pretend that I can do it on my own,  
I feel frustrated at times.

I touch the top, but I can never seem to grab hold.

I worry I am not good enough.

I cry when I start to believe it's true.

I am optimistic and nervous.

I understand that dreams can come true.

I say anything is possible.

I dream of success and fulfillment.

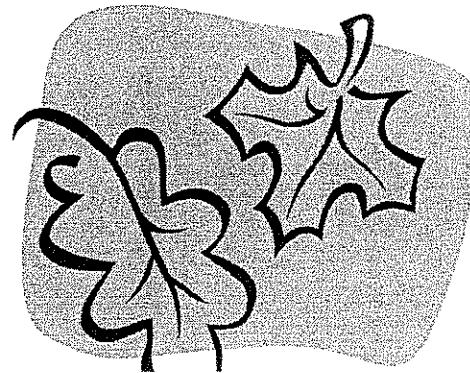
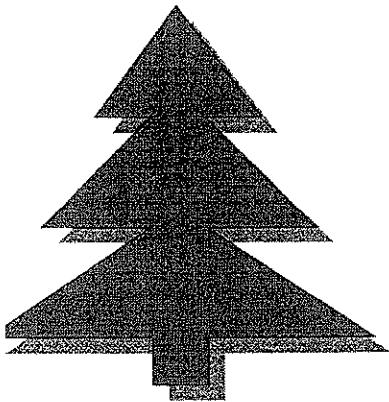
I try to keep my eye on the target.

I hope for the best, knowing that whatever happens, I can pull through

I am optimistic and nervous.



By: Kelli Golinghorst



## A Walk through the Valley

Matt McKinney

Just over the tall mountains and in the town,

The sound of music is heard in the great valley,

Betcha never heard quite a sound,

The weight of the world lifts off the man's shoulders,

As he approaches the edge of the valley

With the pretty ferns and all the wood,

Between the town and the valley the man feels so good,

In the old town, in the beautiful garden,

Surrounded by its beauty he stops to rest,

He looks around the garden at its marvelous flowers,

With the busy buzzing bees at their flowers,

And the giant blue spruces,

Clearing his head of all problems,

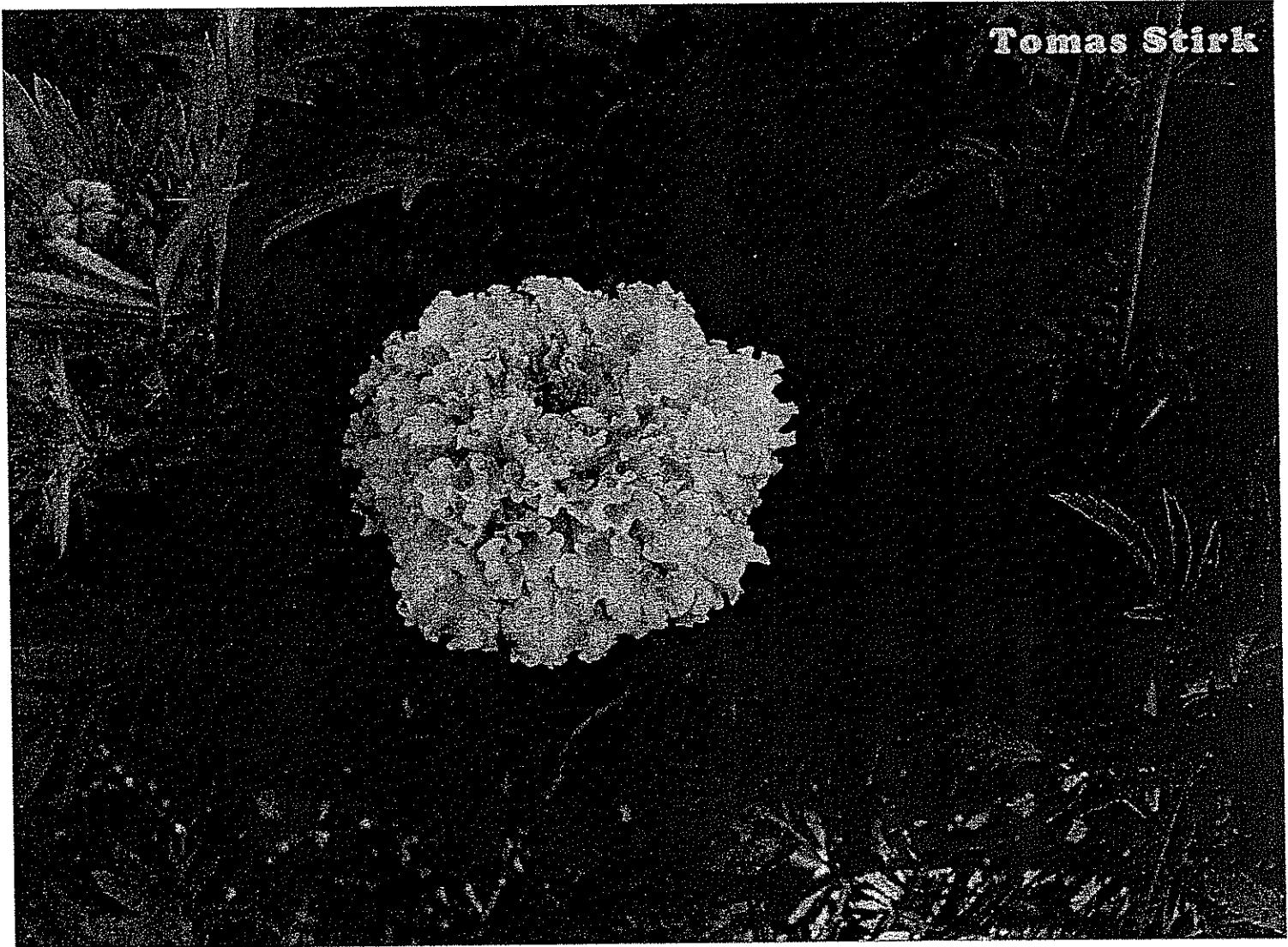
His new world starts here in heaven's garden.

## The Thoughts Of A Teenager

In the morning I make sure I brush my teeth— I have stinky breath in the morning; mornings are my favorite time of the day— breakfast is has to be the best meal of the day for sure; lucky charms have to be the best breakfast cereal ever— I got really lucky at my football game last week— the quarter back threw it up and I caught it right in the end some: my mom said I have to stop catching the flew all the time because I miss so much school: *Jake you have to stop missing so much school because you won't be able to graduate;* mom I'm very intelligent please don't worry (I get great grades in school) I'm starting to like school a lot more now—because of the blocks make the day go by a lot faster: I run varsity track and there is a lot of fast people in the mac conference it's crazy— was when my friend Bryce he shot himself in the foot with his paintball gun: he had to go to the hospital because he broke a blood vessel and ruptured a blood vessel— how could you not think of what could possibly happen to you if you shot yourself in the foot? Thinking sometimes people can't do— my friend dane hasn't even got his report done and I'm almost done with mine; I don't know why we even had to do this— why did we have to do this?

*Jake Jamell P B-4 10/5/08*

Tomas Stirk



The Far Eastern Shore  
By: Nathan Ihrig  
Through the tide of tyranny

the soldier wades

in the blood of victory

the soldier wades

in the smell of death

the soldier wades

through the battle waged

the soldier wades

with the flag raised

the soldier wades

In the pool of a new age

the soldier wades

### *Slipper Sleaze*

Alabama  
Bebop Beat  
Clutching nothing but  
Empty downtown promises.  
It's the rhythm of the world.  
Failure downplayed; eternally lighthearted; forever broke.  
Give a little, take it all back.

Hazy memories—what did we do last night?  
It's a living. Scrape the bottom of the barrel.  
Getting by on 'Jailhouse Rock'  
Oldies-but-Goodies on the radio  
Kick up the dust  
Kick up an uproar  
Kick the can.

Lazy sundays—harmonica blues.  
Sunglasses help to hide the hangover in church.  
Mash-up. Mashed potatoes, skip the gravy.

Momma tucked in our shirts today.  
Word in town's that Poppa's dead.  
Eulogy. Back to work. Life goes on.

Nine-to-Five Jive.  
Pencil Pushing's not our style  
In the streets we live; in cubicles we die.

Punch out one last time—into the streets again.  
Catch her eyes. Catching my breath. Eyes lock.  
Questioning everything ever known in a single look.  
Wondering, 'Will she look this way one more time?'  
Ragtime beat on the jukebox, milkshake refuel.  
Work up the nerve. Gotta make the words come out right.

'Slipper Sleaze' playing now. Got our spats on, ready to go.  
Dumped again, in the gutter. No big deal.  
Tango with the enemy—how many times have we been knocked down?  
Been knocked out? Been down and out? Been—  
Under the radar? Under the weather? Never getting your hands dirty  
Is a bit boring, don't you think? Rush hour, musicians of the street.

Voila! Another big break. Another big bang. Felt tip pen.  
Sunglasses for vanity. Sunglasses to hide bloodshot eyes. Flash!  
Gone in a flash.  
Where have we found ourselves? On the top of the world, looking down?  
At the bottom, looking up?  
What is this?  
Is this real?

Reality's more of a state of mind, anyway.

"EX" marks the spot—a handful of disco biscuits to take the edge off.  
We've arrived carrying crosses on our backs, carrying our battle scars.  
Eternally light-hearted until the end. Is there more here?  
Is this all there is?

You'll never guess the way it'll all work out. You'll never guess right.  
A, B, C. Secret answer number D. You'll only get one shot.  
Unless you get a second chance.

Zombies with beating hearts, with cravings for things other than brains.  
No, not for us. Not again. Never again.  
Tablets circle the drain. Reflection in the mirror. Glazed eyes clearing.  
You're gonna be alright, alright? You're gonna be okay, okay?  
At last, you've arrived.

# My Style of Winning

By: Adam Perrin

It is right there, just grab the leg; "But I can't reach it;" pull the arm, lower your level, it will be there; "I missed it;" fake to that leg, fake again and snap the head as hard as you can; "He'll get out;" no he won't, just keep your elbow in as tight as you can; hold it there and pull him down to the mat; keep pulling, he will fall; you got it, keep snapping; snap like you mean it; snap until he is laid down flat—like a flapjack—snap and spin behind him; keep weight on the arm; "He's not budging;" chop it and push him with your knee; grab a wrist and roll it under; right when it's under, rip it out as you move off of him; you have to move efficiently or you won't get it; push that arm behind his back, he'll be trapped, be sure to straddle him; your opponent is not comfortable, take advantage; keep weight on him and stick your elbow past his head; use your lat to move him; wherever the head goes, the body follows; you got it, make him a ball; lift his wrist and thread the needle; roll him to his back, lift the head and he won't move, maybe not even breathe; the ref will slap the mat and raise your hand. You

# *Be Yourself'*

*By Darion Schaefer*

Don't be afraid to look ridiculous; run, skip, jump, play; be you; dress like a freak, who really cares; jump in rain puddles and gawk at rainbows; do whatever you want to do; what people think doesn't matter; cut you hair short or grow it out long, maybe keep it in a happy medium; do whatever YOU want; whether you are a techie, a band geek, a choir nerd, an athlete, or nothing at all, it is up to you; the world is in your hands; do what you will with it; be bold and take it and run; it should not matter what others think of you, but what you think of yourself; *but I do care what they think*; then you haven't been listening— be who you want to be; not who your parents want you to be; not who your friends want you to be; who you want to be; that is who you should be; because it matters what you want to be; it's okay to be nervous or scare; everyone is sometimes and it's okay to care what other people think sometimes, but never, ever let them stop you because if you do then you might lose something so amazing and so fantastic that you might regret it for the rest of your life; so if you like writing or math or history or science, find out and be proud of who and what you are; work hard in those classes; better yourself for yourself; if you like art, then be an artist and do something that has something to do with art;

try your best every day to be fantastic at whatever you it is that you are good at; *what I'm good at isn't cool*; well, here's something...so what? Who cares? Does it really matter what

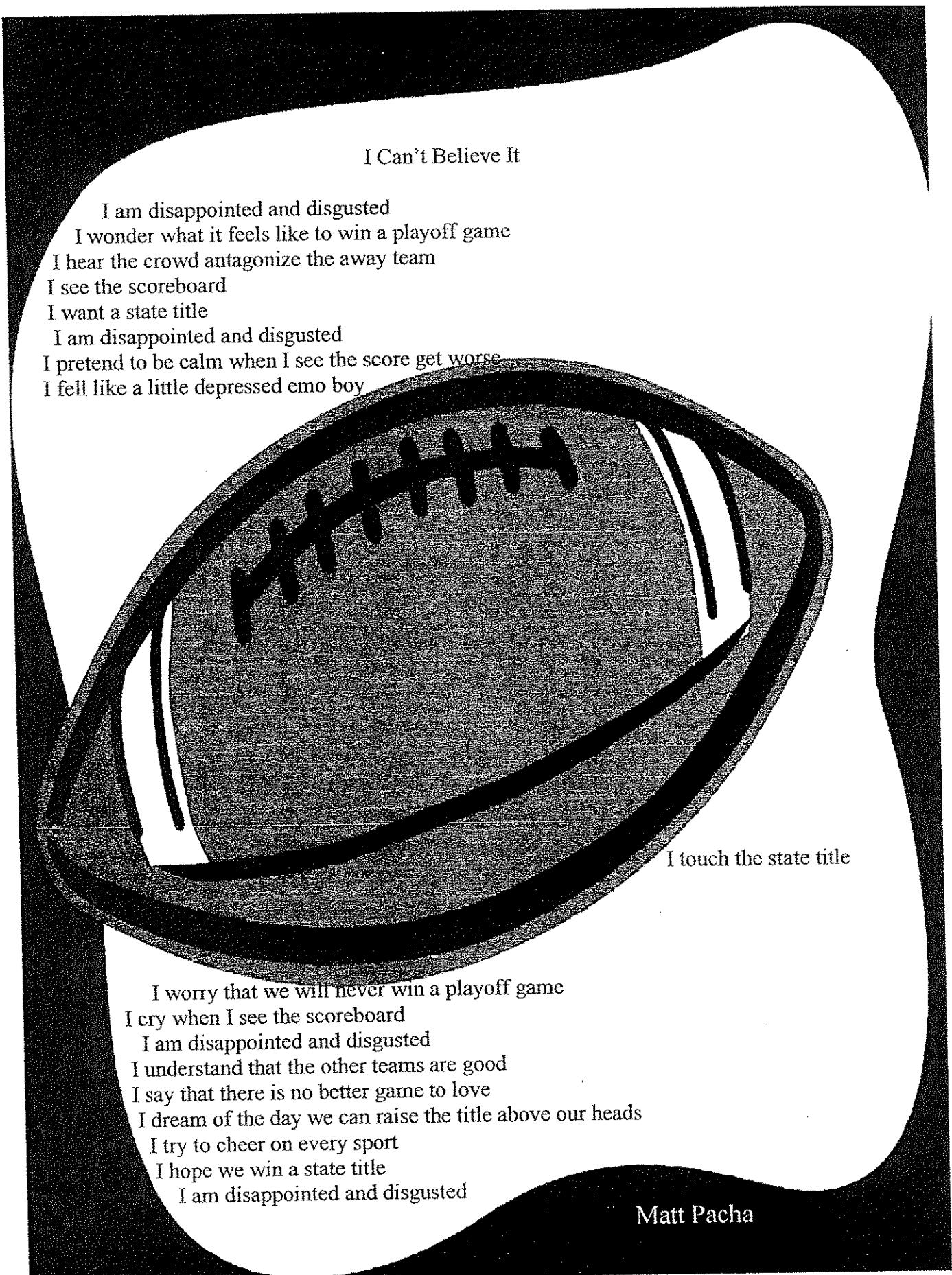
is cool and what isn't? No; so run out and do whatever makes you happy; don't think about anyone else for a while and just go; because it matters what you think or yourself most and what others think of you last; if we all did what we

liked wouldn't it be a better world? Doesn't it make more sense to do what you are good at and what you enjoy than to waste the short, short time you have on this Earth doing something you absolutely hate; so—no matter what—do it, whatever it is; because you never know what might happen

when you do; you could be amazing; you might make something in history so awe-inspiring you will never be forgotten and you might not do that if you decide to do what someone else wants you to do or what is cool rather than do what you like and what you are best at; so got out today and find your calling, or if you know, work on it; do what matters to you and forget everyone else because it is important; it is so important; don't ever look back once you have done what you wanted and don't ever regret it because you just might miss something absolutely amazing.

## I Can't Believe It

I am disappointed and disgusted  
I wonder what it feels like to win a playoff game  
I hear the crowd antagonize the away team  
I see the scoreboard  
I want a state title  
I am disappointed and disgusted  
I pretend to be calm when I see the score get worse  
I fell like a little depressed emo boy



I touch the state title

I worry that we will never win a playoff game  
I cry when I see the scoreboard  
I am disappointed and disgusted  
I understand that the other teams are good  
I say that there is no better game to love  
I dream of the day we can raise the title above our heads  
I try to cheer on every sport  
I hope we win a state title  
I am disappointed and disgusted

Matt Pacha

## Dark Feet

*Breathing in the night air is never a chore.*

*But it takes a bit of courage to walk out through your door.*

*To face the night and all it conceals*

*But you must understand how it feels.*

*To be looked upon as scary and sad*

*While the days looked upon as happy and glad.*

*Thunder at night is always filled with violence*

*I think it's because night gets sick of the silence.*

*So it booms and it crashes with its thunderous roar*

*Like a lion in pursuit of its pray*

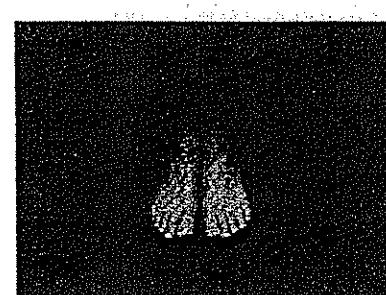
*Wishing all the while that he could be day.*

*The grass is always greener on the other side, or so it is said*

*But being night is lonely because all are in bed.*

*So sometimes I visit night and tell him he's sweet*

*And lay down a rose at his serene dark feet.*



By: Erin Sessler



# How to Survive High School



By: Grace McCammant



Do not be late for class, getting swept is pointless; not only do you miss the class; you have to sit and do nothing for ninety minutes; and if you are going to do nothing might as well be in class so you can get attendance points; *but I would rather sleep*; take school and life one day at a time; you will go insane if you think too far ahead about your homework soon after you receive it; if you do not you will most likely forget to or forget how to; if you are lucky enough to have a study hall use it; think about it, if you do not do it now you will have to do it at home when you could be doing something much more fun. Have a social life; it may be hard to believe sometimes but high school can be lots of fun; the drama and gossip can make even the most boring days suddenly totally interesting and entertaining; making friends is easy, so do not fret; just be nice to people and you will be fine; try to have a positive attitude; there is no reason to make life seem miserable; do not say you cannot do geometry because that only ensures that you cannot; *but I cannot do geometry*; do not freak out if you bomb one test; I promise it is not the end of the world; take it as a learning experience and try your best to do better next time; do not be afraid of failure; try to take challenging classes; it may seem hard now, but the extra work will pay off in the long run; do not act like the teachers are against and that is why you are failing, excuses will not change a grade; the teachers are there to help you so do not be afraid to talk to them; most of them will be more than willing to assist you; most importantly have a good time in high school; join clubs and play sports; try everything; because if you do not you will regret it later.

## *"A Bride's Life"*

*By: Caroline Blake*

*I never really wanted to be a bride.*

*We were not the cutest couple,*

*But*

*Love has joined us together,*

*He is the other have of me.*

*I never wanted to be a bride till now.*

*I heard the music and down the aisle I  
moved.*

*Stopping down the aisle,*

*I must stop to think is he who he says he is?*

*My Prince Charming looked at me;*

*Now*

*I once was a bachelorette, but now I am a  
wife.*

By- Angela Meyer

With love

I'm sure you're already asleep  
These types of things just get to me  
And I don't know why  
But something is not settling

Maybe it's just that all that I worked for  
Is gone, out the door  
With no goodbye or reason why  
I'm sure she's beautiful but what was I  
In your eyes

Tell me how you saw me  
The only view that mattered in my world  
Tell me what your thoughts are  
Cause I can't help remembering a girl  
Just a year ago, who fell in love with love

Maybe it wasn't you I wanted  
Just something your arms could give  
But in my time wasted  
I've founds it's not a live I need to live

Tell me how you saw me  
The only view that mattered in my world  
Tell me what your thoughts are  
Cause I can't help remembering a girl  
Just a year ago, who fell in love with love

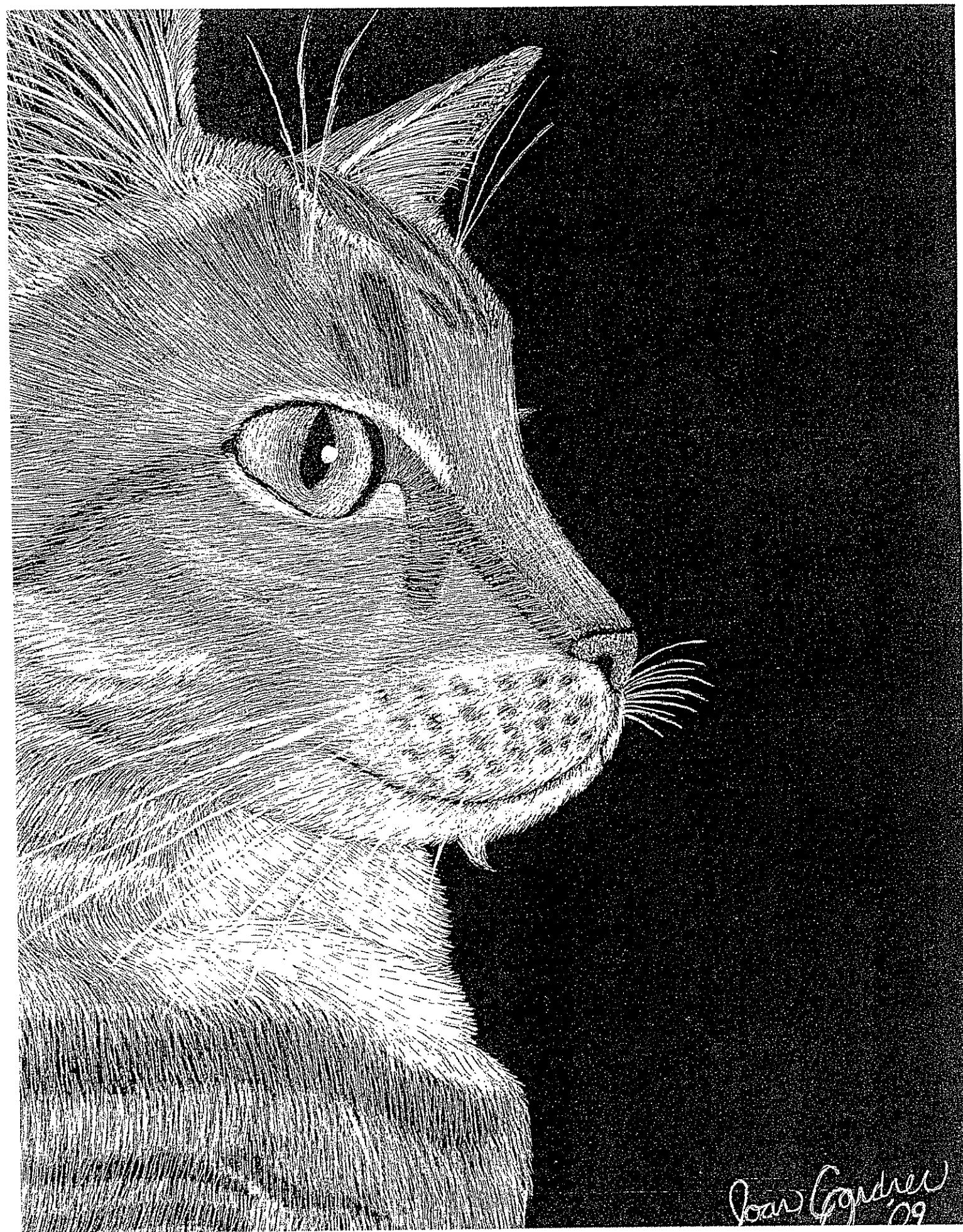
Thank you for my lessons learned  
Every moment we shared  
Your hand to hold  
When it comes to being over  
Its just something I need to get through  
Cause I hate not having you

Tell me how you saw me  
The only view that mattered in my world  
Tell me what your thoughts are  
Cause I can't help remembering a girl  
Just a year ago, who fell in love with love



# The Day to Day

As you rise out of bed in the morning, take a moment to enjoy the sun rise into the sky; don't worry, be happy—things are never as bad as they seem; to be happy, do what makes you happy; when it rains it pours, so have some fun and dance in it; *but I hate the rain*; if you hate rain so much, don't be the one to rain on other people's parade; occasionally it's OK to give in to temptation and jump into that really big puddle on the side of the road; always go with the flow, and get into the groove of doing so; get groovy and bust a move! We all need to have fun and cut loose once in a while; always remember *Carpe Diem*, because life is only lived once; *what's that supposed to mean?* Stop making excuses, the old, "the dog ate my homework" may have worked in the third grade, but it's not going to pay off in the long run; make goals for yourself, shoot for the moon, even if you miss you can still catch a star; *but I'm not an astronaut*; never worry yourself with stress, all it does is cause break outs; money can't buy you love, nor can it buy you happiness, but it can buy you a yellow submarine; take time to stop and smell the roses; sing in the shower; remember to eat three square meals a day; *but what about the circles?* Always take time to notice what's right, what's left won't be that important; don't forget to say "thank you"; never forget the child you were; hopscotch on the sidewalk; learn to appreciate the 'here and now'; always give yourself some time to relax and just 'chill'; enjoy a cup of hot cocoa on a chilly day, and ,maybe a few marshmallows too; take a cup of cocoa to a window each evening, and enjoy the sunset.



Joan Gosselin  
09

Food  
By John Davison

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Never eat left over's the day after they were cooked; the flavor's gone and it won't satisfy you until your desperately hungry, always season your meat when you can seasoning adds a spark to the food, don't be afraid of pink meat,, it won't kill you; if you always keep your stomach full you'll have less to worry about in life, don't hesitate to eat midnight snacks when you're hungry, either way you are going to regret it, over indulge in ice cream and chocolate on rainy days, it's a fun that can't be matched , just be creative with it, don't be afraid to try new foods unless their alive and moving when you eat it; always consume the food needed for your lifestyle, athletes eat healthy, it improves the game, bananas are for preventing cramps, chocolate milk is the number one recovery drink for athletes, drinking water is necessary for staying alert and keeping hydrated, ready to eat microwave dinners are good but one never fills you up, the drink you have with your meal is very important, it's like a side compliment to the food, always order hors d'oevres, they like an anticipation of what to come, never eat just plain salad, always have dessert with your meal. *But what if they don't offer dessert?* Then don't eat there again, candy bars are so good but yet so bad so don't overindulge, when experimenting with mixing food stay within limit, never mix two totally different types of food; when cooking remember appearance is half effect of the food, it has to look good before someone will try it, never think that you can survive one a certain type of food just because it is cheap, remember a freshly baked homemade pie can amend wrongs with just

# Growing UP

By: Gwen Abington

Get up on time, get ready, and don't miss the bus, high school is serious business; respect school property from the time you arrive to the time you leave, school never did anything to you, no matter how much you may dislike it; don't be late to classes, you will get swept and be given an in school detention; sit still, pay attention, and listen to the adults, they know what they're talking about and are to help you learn; use time in class wisely, work on homework so you don't have as much to actually take home, or possibly none to take home; social time is not nearly as tolerated in high school, teachers expect you to work; *I don't have to do work as long as I do well on tests*; every late assignment turned in drops your grade, this is something taken more seriously once your older; remember that as you roam from class to class there are still students learning, so be quiet in the halls!; how would you feel if someone was screaming nonsense outside the class you are in, while taking a test?; *it probably wouldn't bother me*; the loudness of freshmen class seems to get louder ever year; what happened to six inch voices?; the loudness angers upperclassmen and doesn't help anyone concentrate; you can wait until lunch to have that social time you so desperately want; park where you are expected to park, the tennis courts may be somewhat of a walk, but every junior and senior has had to park there, it's your turn; I don't know if it's a new attraction or just shown more within high school, but public display of affection or 'PDA' is not ok!; leave the kissing out of the hallways, you may feel in love and not care who sees what you're doing, however most people do not want to whiteness the game of tonsil hockey, especially while they are trying to get to a class; it's frighteningly distracting; teachers expect you to be in class, trying to go to the restroom every period or block just isn't going to happen, there are five minutes for passing period, use them wisely; imagine walking down the hall, trying to get to class, and being stopped by a sudden large herd of people; prime example of freshmen hall every year, if you have to talk to a large amount of people move it to the sides at least, some people have a time and place to be; *a large group is going to take up space wherever it is*; regarding the locker rooms and bathrooms, there is no need to bring a straightener or curling iron to school, get ready before school coming to school; lockers are not perfume counters, spraying cologne or perfume – especially in large quantities— can smell pretty bad, just don't do it; when you enter the high school, more responsibility is given to you, the actions you make are to be appropriate, behavior is to be respectful, and everyone watches the freshmen class; being a freshmen once myself, and realizing that you're entering a new world of schooling, I know that sometimes the rules and what people dislike aren't always mentioned or told to you; so how are you to know?; well, I hope this helps.

Katie Blount

Ms. Smith

Honors English 2, B-4

April 24, 2009

Swim

Beaches, sun, fun, water

The season of summer is the season of swimming

She thought the water was blue

At a distance she saw the water was clear

Dolphins swim within their species

Starfish are whirled ashore

Coral reefs sparkle through the seashore

The streams feed on lily pads of frogs

The whale eats the plankton like the plankton eats the algae

The coral shows the fish where the bottom of the ocean lies

I swam on the bottom of the river

I walk around the pond into the horizon

With sand castles on the shore



Melissa  
Story

## *Never Mind*

I am the man who sold the world; I am nirvana.

I wonder where is my mind.

I hear the teen spirit.

I see the lake of fire.

I want to be in Utero

I am the man who sold the world; I am nirvana.

I pretend that I'm in bloom with all the others.

I feel the lithium of life.

I touch the plateau of solitude.

I worry because I know you know you're right.

I cry because Jesus don't want me for a sun beam.

I am the man who sold the world; I am nirvana.

I say there's something in the way.

I dream of a heart-shaped box.

I try to see the seasons in the sun.

I hope to come as you are.

I am the man who sold the world; I am nirvana.

By:

David Harrington

# I Am

.....  
.....  
.....



I am independent and loud

I wonder how quiet people are heard

I hear the chewing mouths and the crunch of pickles

I see the filled round tables of hungry students

I want a really good lunch

I am independent and loud

I pretend I like the apple sauce

I feel like different person than who I am in class

I touch the crumbly cookie

I worry about the school's sanitation

I cry when my friends are not there

I am independent and loud

I understand it is okay to walk up to dump a lunch tray by myself

I say lunch is the best twenty-two minutes of the day

I dream of a day where people eat their own food

I try to talk to everyone

I hope to have as much fun tomorrow

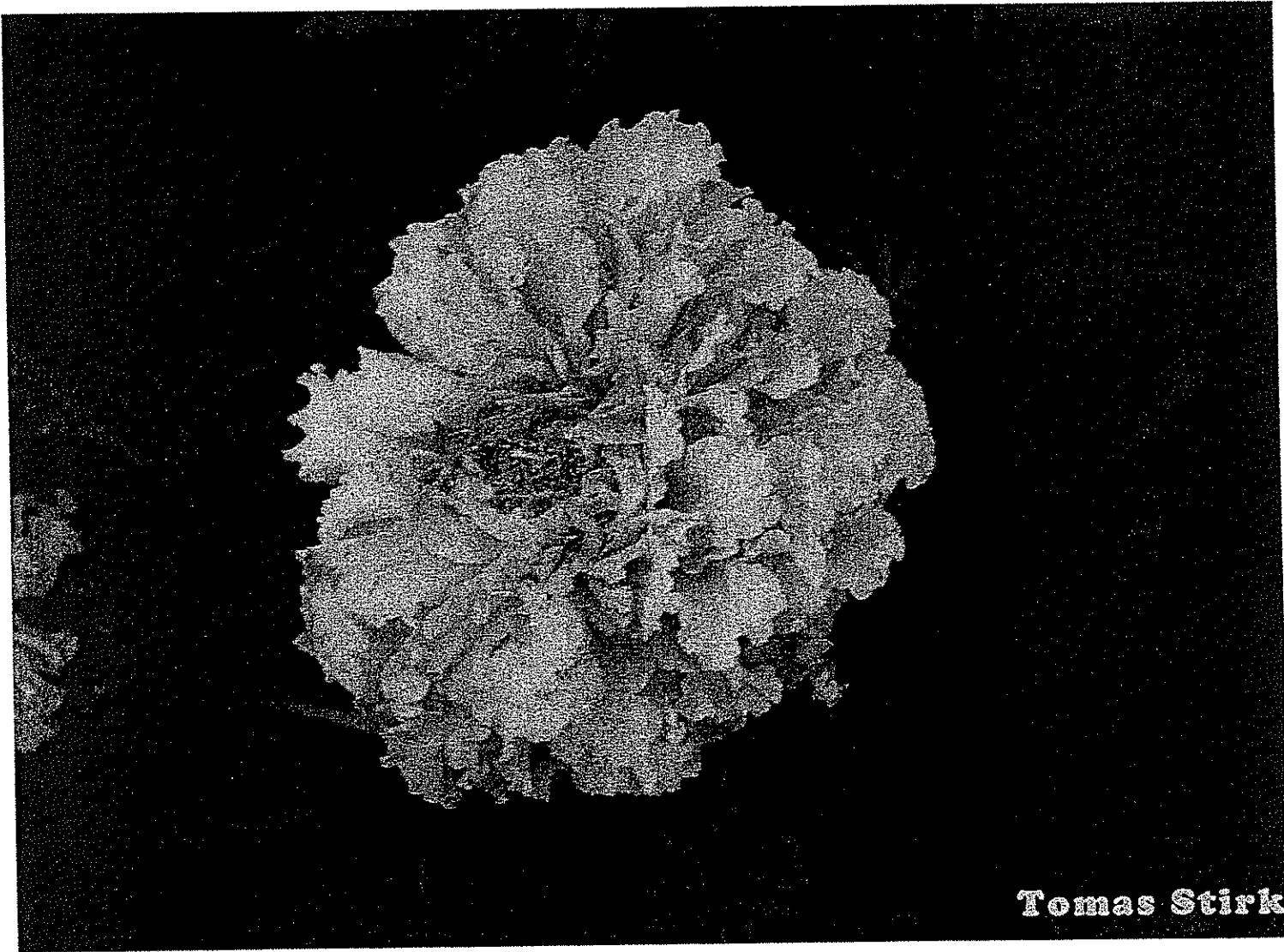
I am independent and loud

Amanda Ploof

## Advice to the Band Geek

Know how to play your instrument; memorize your scales; get all your lessons in so you don't fail; sign up for them in study hall; *I don't have a study hall*; sign up to get out of an easy class; don't forget about computer assignments!; stay after school to get them in if needed; force your sibling to wait for you, and if they say no, find another ride; be sure to have rides so you can play at games; step off with your left foot first; make sure your music is marked; mark time!; don't annoy your squad leader so they threaten to punch you in the face; don't fret freshmen, you'll get it; seniors, be friendly, they'll get it eventually; don't be a bad squad leader; don't forget to mark their music!; make sure they know where they're going; make sure you know where you're going, don't play in a rest; practice your music!; *I don't have time*; well make time—you need to know your music so you don't make the band sound bad!; you have to practice almost every day if you're trying out for All State; the audition music is hard!; at the very least practice for chair placements so you get a good spot; upperclassmen usually get into symphonic band; don't goof off when you're at competitions because the judges will lower your score; be responsible for your music and your instrument; don't leave your instrument at school; do the fundraisers so you don't have to pay as much for band trips; go to band camp so you can go to Six Flags; go to band camp to learn how to march; march at football games; march in parades; parades can be painful so stop complaining because everyone has to march in them; fold your pants on the pleat; put your gloves in your pocket; nobody has to wear the uniforms on senior show because you wear costumes; don't forget the costume or else you will have to wear the uniform with the plume; you don't have to wear the uniforms for pep band; you play in pep band during basketball games; you play in pep band in football playoff games; memorize the fight song; get your parents to bring you water and a blanket (if it's cold) during the football games; wear warm costumes for senior show because it's usually cold by then; know your parts for senior show so you don't ruin it for the seniors; if you don't know your parts fake play so the band doesn't sound worse; keep your music and instrument in the band locker room; practice!; *I don't want to practice*; you don't have to practice a lot if you know your parts really well; if you need help on a part ask someone; make friends in band because that's how you will know a lot of people; don't quit!; stay in band and have fun.

April Weiss



Tomas Stirk

# How to Dream

By: Sarah Riedel

Daydream because reality is too boring for those who dare to think; thinking opens the mind and entices the brain; don't depend on reality, the rules are too strict to follow, make the rules of fantasy where up is down and down is sideways; follow your heart, not your mind, especially when the world tells you otherwise; careful, the mind is a dangerous place, full of dark and scandalous thoughts; beware the nightmares of guns and murderous beings in the dream world--the night terrors that wake you screaming in the night, and make you shudder during the day; sit under the stars and moon, because night is the ultimate time of day; watch sunsets over dried corn fields; *there are no corn fields*; walk outside and smile for no reason--the day's too beautiful not to; swing for endless hours, high as possible until going over the top; dance and sing in the moment because life's a musical, even if no one else can hear the music; *I can't sing*; laugh till it hurts; tell a story, one so believable yet unreal, or so unbelievable it's real; long for a place you cannot go, whether a world or a city far away; never let go of a dream; carry it everywhere; wear it as a necklace to let the world recognize you are a dreamer; don't let it die--when that happens reality has won; start an adventure, bold, silly, and completely outrageous; create another world, one that doesn't exist in reality; see the vibrant colors, they don't exist in on Earth; see the people you created, too perfect to be real; this is how you smile, genuinely, not false; this is how you cry; this is how you pick yourself up again; this is how you sigh when awakened into reality; this is how you wait for a dream on those long and lonely days; wait for your dream to come true, all the wait will be worth it; daydream to escape; daydream to smile; daydream to live; daydream to dream.

Hannah Reinert

A soaring, blowing, ripping at my window  
Imagine what it would be like to be the wind  
Gliding effortlessly threw the meadow  
It's undefined  
And floats between the lines  
Above seas and mountains  
You can't keep it confined  
That's why the wind and I are so different  
Because while it's soaring freely  
I'm stuck behind

MESSAGES

•••U-B-EL-L-LL-D-U••

The rush of light, and it begins.  
New and unknowing

They pull you away, you're just a number  
Your soul robbed, the sameness setting.  
Madness, that madness

It's almost over, can't you smell it?  
The debris at your feet  
Your hands are cold and heart is dead  
Now you know and want it back

The universe ticks on and on  
While we helplessly feed it.

WISDOM

The beauty overwhelming  
The world is open and waiting  
Take it in until you burst

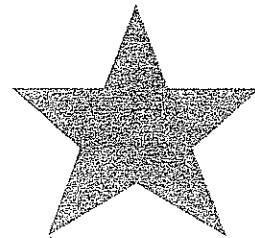
Touch, be touched, refuse.  
It is not over. It never is. Do you not agree?  
I emerged from the storm.  
Commit to your cause and be free.  
Refuse to be them.

The night sets  
The rush of light, and it's over.  
The cloak of dust is over you  
And there you linger, rotting and helpless

By: Aislinn Martin

# A Dreamer's Thoughts

By: Sarah Riedel



I am a dreamer who laughs out loud and wishes on stars.

I wonder why others don't think as I do.

I hear in my head the beat of my music and tap to the rhythm.

I see a world full of magic and adventure.

I want to show others my world, and let them smile.

I am a dreamer who laughs out loud and wishes on stars.

I pretend to be my heroes so,

I feel their triumph and excitement too.

I touch their world before it fades away forever.

I worry that one day I'll never dream again.

I cry in protest when they say it will happen.

I am a dreamer who laughs out loud and wishes on stars.

I understand that world is not real, but

I say through daydreams it is.



I dream that I am there and anywhere but here.

I try to show others.

I hope they understand.

I am a dreamer who laughs out loud and wishes on stars.

# I Am

By: Gwen Abington

I am cautiously curious. I am a dreamer.  
I wonder what clouds feel like when they're full  
of water.

I hear the raindrops falling onto the flower's  
petals.

I see obstacles in life many avoid.

I want a stress free environment.

I am cautiously curious. I am a dreamer.

I pretend I don't listen.

I feel others thoughts around me.

I touch lightning without being harmed.

I worry what society teaches the children.

I cry when someone close fades away.

I am cautiously curious. I am a dreamer.

I understand things with a deeper meaning.

I say my faith.

I dream when I probably shouldn't.

I try to always appear happy.

I hope for a better future.

I am cautiously curious. I am a dreamer.

## A Solemn Escape

By: Gwen Abington

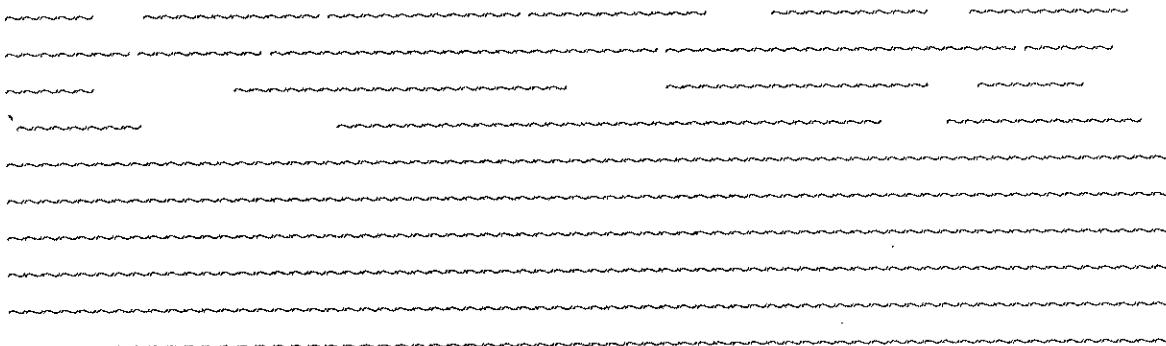
Live  
life like  
an enchanting  
dream. The repetitive  
image of an amazing vacation  
comes to mind. So climb on the cruise ship  
and notice; Tourists modeling multicolored  
bathing  
suits.  
The  
dragon  
flies

forming a buzzing army, unlike harmless seagulls that fly. Be curious, bury your toes in the sand. Turn over a shell or throw a bonfire.

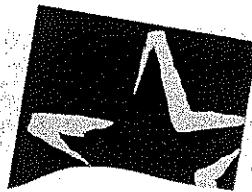
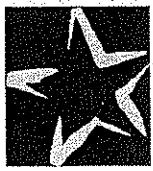
Children crouch over sandcastles in concentration.

The ocean is overwhelmed and swelling with its own current, tapering crashes at the ocean edges.

Sunshine and warmth, yesterday and today;  
a big yellow day awaits of tropical drinks  
and a beach sunset.







## From the Stars to the Sea



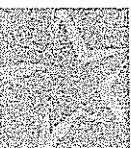
The slippery stones sparkled from the striking stars  
With the bright full-moon big and high in the sky  
And the stars thrown about like a buoy in the  
crashing waves



The big waves with their rough, black arms  
Sparkling from the shine of the stars  
Throughout the night there was no dull and lonely

star

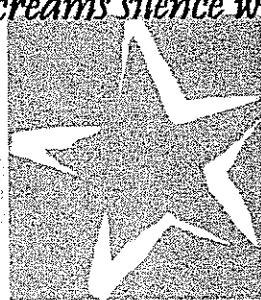
Gold and navy, intertwined with the conflict of rough  
air

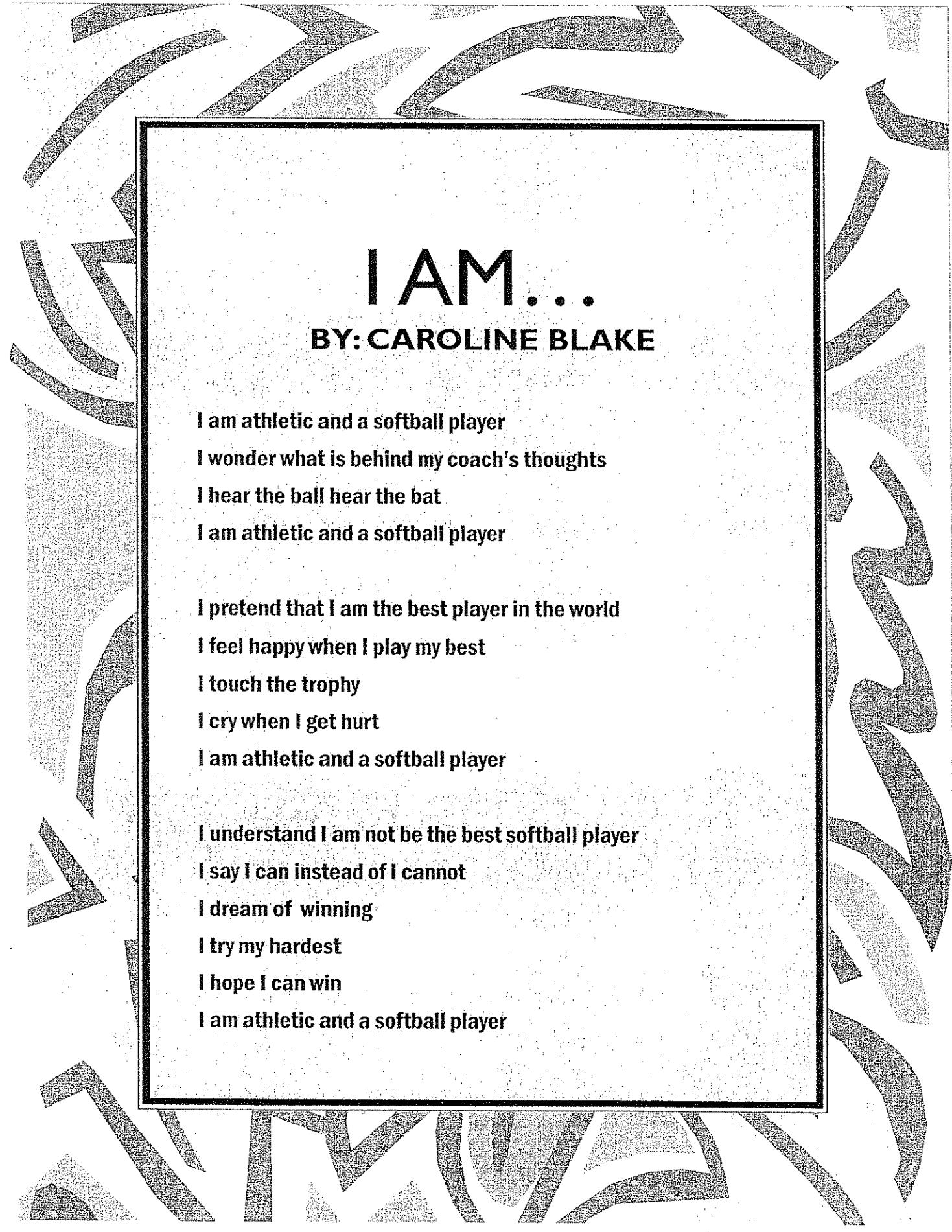


Next to the ocean beneath the bright and high moon  
Meanwhile, the wet land was roaring underneath  
As its cradle swayed from the restless waters

The ocean screams silence with its roaring waves

Elizabeth Porte





# **I AM...**

**BY: CAROLINE BLAKE**

**I am athletic and a softball player**

**I wonder what is behind my coach's thoughts**

**I hear the ball hear the bat**

**I am athletic and a softball player**

**I pretend that I am the best player in the world**

**I feel happy when I play my best**

**I touch the trophy**

**I cry when I get hurt**

**I am athletic and a softball player**

**I understand I am not be the best softball player**

**I say I can instead of I cannot**

**I dream of winning**

**I try my hardest**

**I hope I can win**

**I am athletic and a softball player**



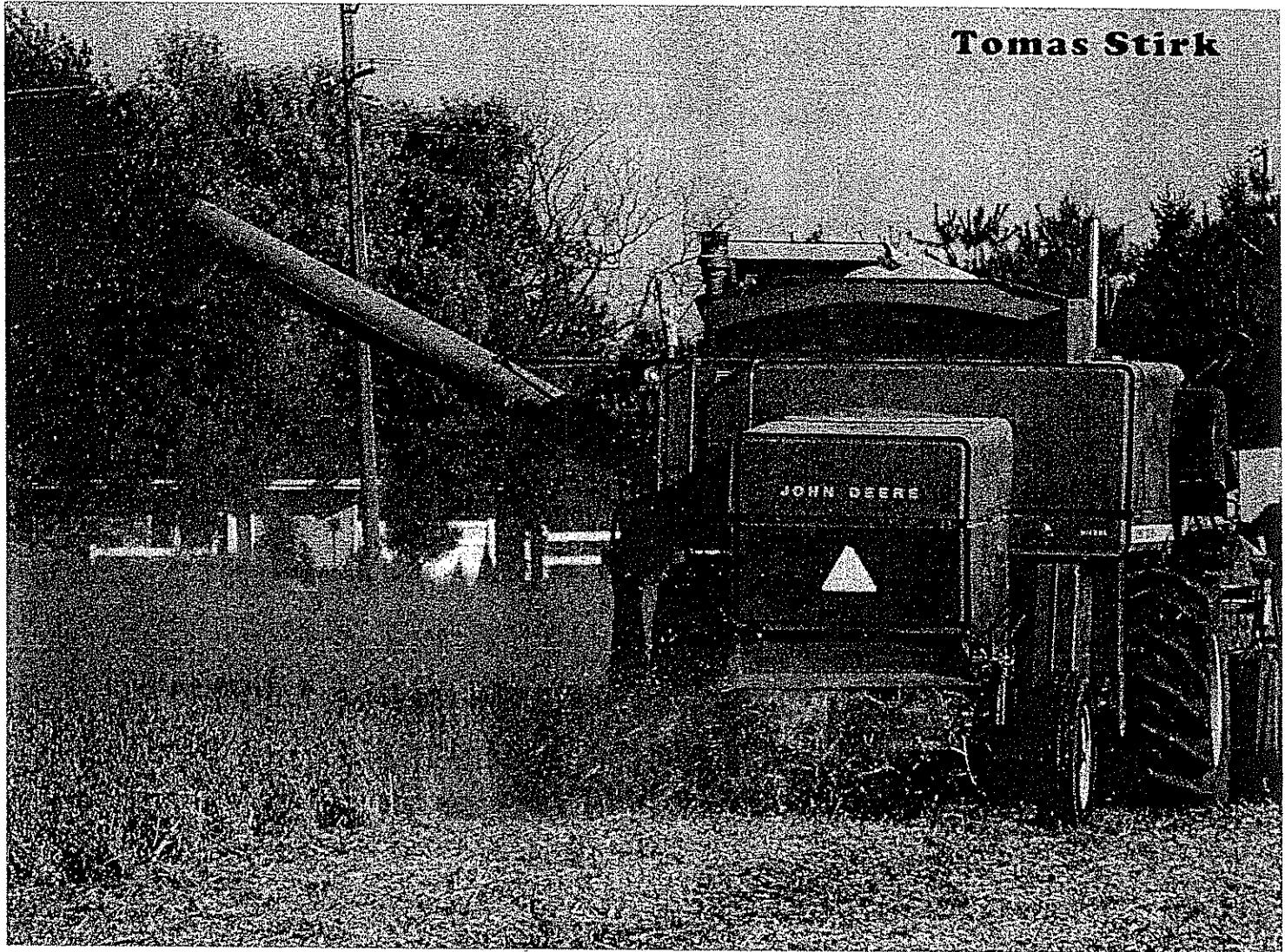
## **The Runners**

**By: Juliann Dickey**

They run free. They have no care in the world. They want peace. They want a family. They want to feel love. They want to feel faith. They run when there is danger. They rest when they are tired. They eat when they are hungry. They drink when they are thirsty. They take care of one another. The stallion watches out for all. He cares. He protects. He wants peace. He wants love. He feels some of these things but not all. When they run the wind is in their face. They like to run. The wind in the face feels good. They

run in herds. Not in packs. They want peace for each other. They want no harm to no one. They deserve faith as well as hope. As they run each one hopes that one does not get attacked by vicious animals that want them for pray. All they want is to be able to run free with each other. They run with some fear but not a lot. They have to know what may happen. The bad and angry might happen. It might not. They will have to wait and see what becomes of them each day.

**Tomas Stirk**



## Do's and Do not's of Tennis

By: Caroline Blake

Pay attention; share; show up for practice; behave; make friends; be nice to everyone; respect yourself, others around you and the sport; listen to your coach; early is on time, on time is late; if you need help just ask; NEVER lay in the middle of practice to get a tan, *who does that*; do not say that you ride the activity bus when you do not; do not throw items at you teammates; do not lie to your coach; do not screw around when the coach is trying to tell you something; if you walk around to look at shirtless guy, instead of practicing, then you are guaranteed little playing time; do not talk back; skipping is bad; you will not getting any better, *what if I have something going on?* If you have something more important then practice then explain you situation to your coach and you guys can work something out; do not be a big stuck up; this is the do's and do not's of tennis practice.

## Man Alone

On a large island standing alone among many.

Masses of trees swaying gently.

There was a man who knew no change.

Striving forever longingly day and night.

Obsessively determined to outlast time.

Searching within, searching to complete.

For those inner freedoms he reaches out.

Making only scratches on the glass.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Diamantopoulos". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized 'J' at the beginning.

# Freshmen

Freshmen do not herd in the hallway; when there are upper classman get out of the way, show respect for upper classman, they were all freshman at one point and they had to deal with the same things you did, why do all of you think that you rule this school? During football games you really need to move out of the way for sophomores and above, when your standing there not cheering you are showing your ignorance, because your taking up room and yet you are useless, *But I'm not useless I just want to watch the game*, well that's fine and all , but unless your cheering get out of the way, also get out of the way in the hallways, when you see a senior coming your way be prepared to move, seriously why do you have to have half of your grade in one hallway? Also stop dressing so sluttish—put some clothes on, you people have taken P.D.A. to a whole new level, when I'm walking through the hallway I do not need to see you sticking your tongue down someone's throat, *We do not have a problem with public display of affection*, yes you do, so just get a new wardrobe and save that affection for some place outside of school, now that were are done with the bashing you do have some good qualities; your football team is doing pretty well and so is your volleyball team, most of you guys are starting to get the hang of actually dancing at dances, many of your are picking up the school spirit, so all in all you do have many flaws, but so does every grade, but why do you have to be so annoying?

—David Harrington

# I Am

By: Anthony Isely

I wonder what will become of my life  
I hear warnings of failure  
I see unnecessary oppression  
I want to be an important member of society

**I am watchful and wary**

I pretend to have no worries  
I feel the world slipping into a depression  
I touch the cusp of a new world  
I worry of what will become of me  
I cry for the downtrodden

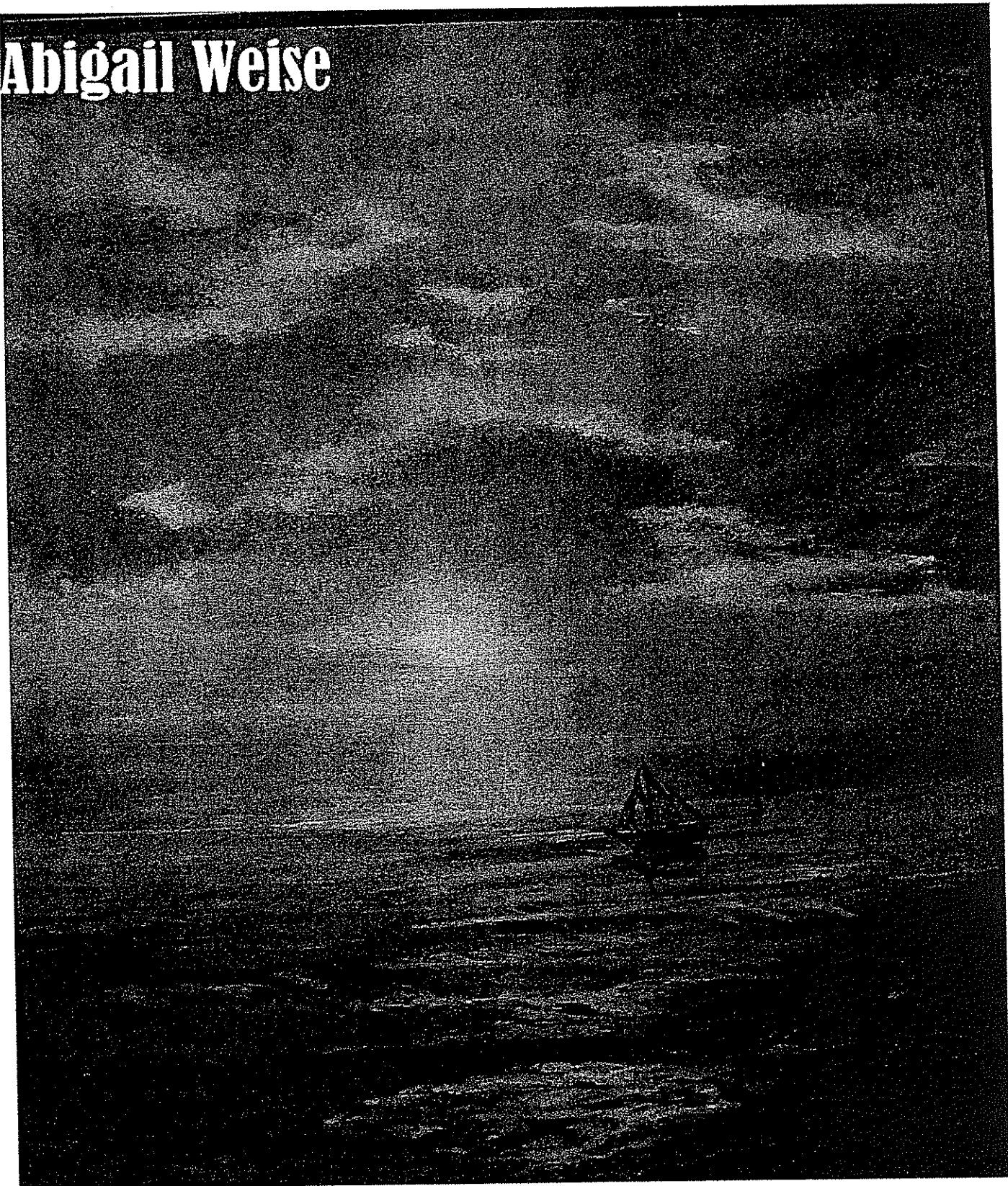
**I am watchful and wary**

I understand that the world will never be out of  
harm's way

I say that without change there is no progression  
I dream that societal chains will be broken  
I try to shy away from the burdens of society  
I hope one day I will have an effect on the world

**I am watchful and wary**

# Abigail Weise



# A Guide to Freshman

By: Matt McKinney

You probably hear about always treating seniors and upperclassmen with respect; otherwise they'll trash can you or give you an elevator pass; they say to sit in the back at football games, don't cut in the lunch line; but they don't care as much as you think; in fact they barely do anything at all if you violate these things; who would want to be the only freshman in the front row anyways? *Well, I wouldn't*, Upperclassmen will probably even like you if you don't act immature; *Really they will?* Sure, as long as you don't walk extremely slow in the hallways like all the other freshmen do; If you dress for the themes at football games, basketball games, and so forth they'll love you; and if you drive to school, don't worry about parking at the tennis courts; if there is enough spots at the school lot park there' as long as you let the seniors get the close ones to the school; *wait a minute what if I get caught?* Then you'll probably get a warning; then it would be a good idea to park at the tennis courts; if you have classes with seniors and your concerned about being smarter then them and showing them up; heck they don't care, they'll probably be impressed; all you have to do is not smart off to them and give them a little respect and you might even make a friend or two.

## *Eternity*

The lips of my heart speak without being heard  
Cold, screaming silence, stillness

Magical, yet melancholy, mimicking a moonlit cemetery  
But hope is present where darkness seems like a fog  
As if someone once permitted dead now exists  
And for this, *hope* is eternal

What first opened these ignorant ears of mine?

I was in lust with fame and glory  
Believed achieving what is sought, the ultimate victory  
Direct me away from the fork of hesitation  
Help me stare 'em all through to the heart and never be in  
wonder  
And for this, *courage* is eternal

My heart yearns for love, like petals for sunlight

Hidden in a garden along the deserted path  
Lost by some, but never forsaken by its provider  
And for this, *love* is eternal

- Carrie Kilen

## The Wilderness

The creature's jaw full of teeth devour the other's mass

Just before the forest of his building

They tussle, they glare in the other's eyes, they eliminate, and they prevail

The boisterous small giant dies after many summers

Who slumbers and stumbles in their grave of chaos

The florescent roar of their waves could be heard as they gurgle by the shore

While the four forest-grown fox's fight in the forefront

The noise, clinkity-clankity is waking the creatures of the wilderness

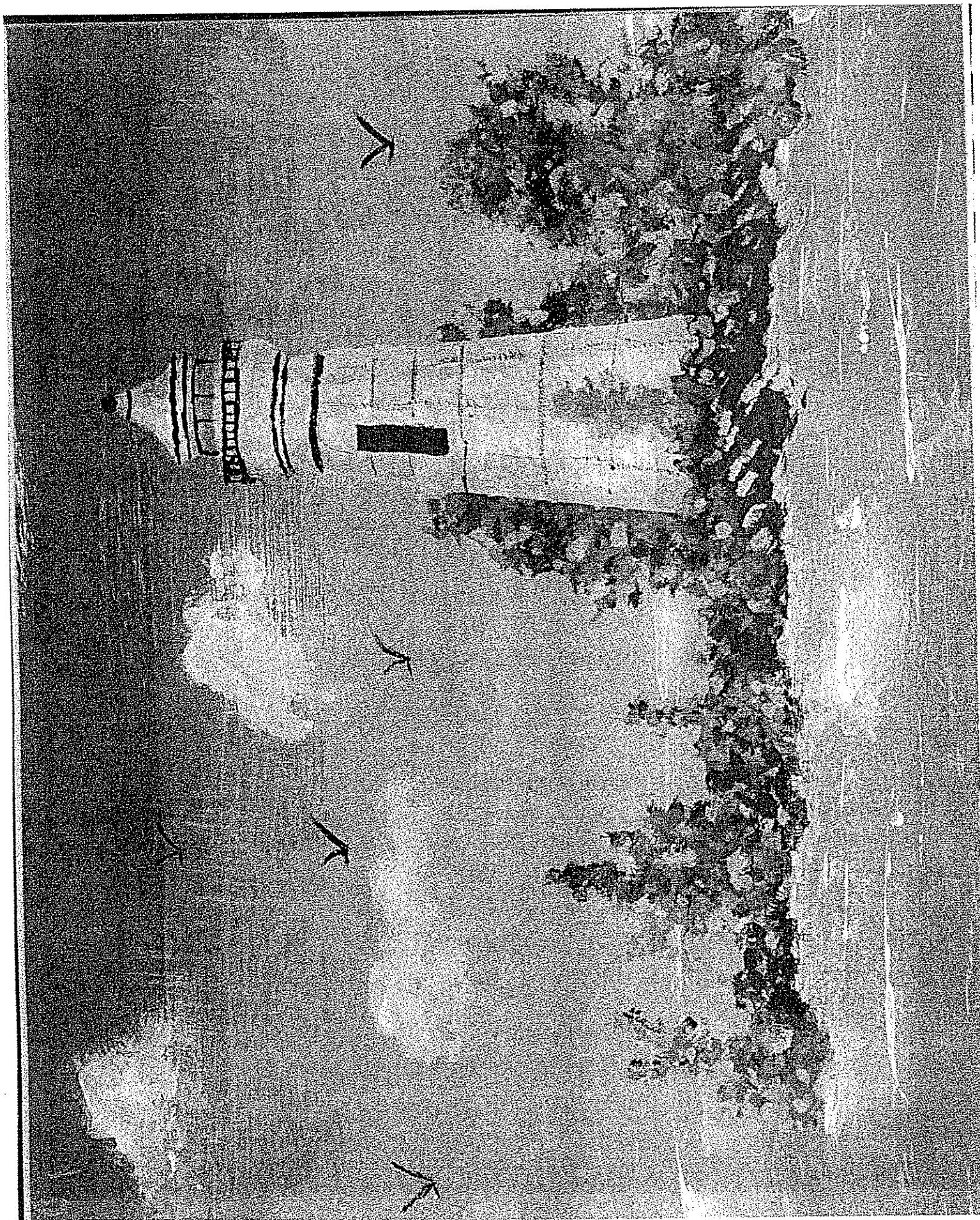
After the incitement, the creature wagged his fluffy red tail while

In the top of the oak trees, it constructs a fortress, like a castle

Scurrying away during the morning dusky haze where

There the creature discovers a showering heap of riches

By: Darren Dillon



## “I Am”

By: Ronnie Frantz

I am discrete and observant.

I wonder why the boy tries.

I hear his fast, erratic breath as he prepares to run, ready for more punishment.

I see him at home, spending his nights doing schoolwork until he retires to bed only to repeat the same process the next day as he has rehearsed countless nights.

I want him to be at a friend's house or simply having quality time with his family.

I am discrete and observant.

I pretend that he doesn't care if he spends his youth doing labors that others have grown to expect of him.

I feel the physical and mental pain that follows the loss of a close game, the one game that was a defining moment for him and his team.

I touch the disfiguring scar left from a past battle with cancer, thinking how blessed he must have been to have detected it early.

I worry what the future holds for him as he enters the adult world, and what he must do to rebuild it.

I cry when he disappoints his grandmother who comes to watch him compete, he wonders which game maybe the last she will ever attend since she is fighting in her own battle with cancer.

I am discrete and observant.

I understand that one day his sacrifices will be worth all the struggles and the invaluable life lessons he is sure to have learned.

I say that if he can survive hardships, he will become an outstanding person.

I dream he will achieve his goals of becoming a doctor as well as a family man.

I try to convince him that the advance and frustrating classes he has chosen will pay off in the grand scheme of things.

I hope he stays on the right path to achieve his goals and will endure any unforeseen challenges that may arise.

I am discrete and observant.

# Words

By: Kelsey Meier

These words unspoken  
Could mean a lifetime of sadness  
These words unspoken could mean a multitude of regrets  
These words unspoken  
Could mean an unfulfilled life  
These words unspoken  
Could mean hurt loved ones  
These words unspoken once left unspoken,  
Can never be heard.

# ::Advice on Individuality::

Uniqueness is key; individuality makes you unique be different, be exciting, be a rebel—in a good way— you can be a rebel by being a good example; *how can you be a rebel without making bad decisions*; rebellion is simply not conforming to what the “norm” is so you simply DO NOT do what everyone else is doing, rebellion is a way of expressing your true feelings, and your true feelings definitely are not to get wasted every weekend; seriously speaking, everyone knows that you do not want to go to jail for having an un-memorable night of puking, that's right, I said— who says getting wasted means *forgetting the fun you had*— getting wasted wastes brain cells, also known as memory, smarts, logic, and so on; I really do not need to give you all the details of why getting high or being intoxicated is bad because you know all of that; but by the definition of rebellion, I am a rebel, so coming from a true rebel, myself, I tell you it is a complete waste of time! The only successful people who have party lifestyles became rich & famous before they “partied it up” every night— but back to the facts— why would anyone give up their intelligence or freedom for one night of “being cool?! Rebel from what every adult expects you to do every Saturday night; instead of “partying it up” go bowling with your girlfriends and maybe have some fun and go to church in the morning! Heck I'd say that is out the “norm”— plus you made tons of memories and inside jokes; so be unique, stand out, strut your stuff and remember all the fun you had in high school!

By: Victoria Hawley

# Alex Carter



Spring  
By: Maddy LeDoux

**With morning mists still creeping**

**Along a sun-bathed shore**

**I look carefully as I walk**

**While leaving foot prints on the shore**

**Aprils breeze goes on uninterrupted**

**Flowers are starting to bloom**

**While robins are soaring freely**

**Without winter's gloom**

**Hearing birds all day long**

**Until the darkening darkness**

**It seems to be near**

**But then I know spring must be here**

*I am...*

*I am independent and a perfectionist*

*I wonder what career will choose me*

*I hear the stirring of the whisk*

*I see myself in a grand kitchen*

*I want to be a great chef*

*I am independent and a perfectionist*

*I pretend to work with all the greats*

*I feel honored to be blessed with such an opportunity*

*I touch my apron impatient to start*

*I worry I will make a recipe wrong*

*I cry I will make a blunder*

*I am independent and a perfectionist*

*I understand what needs to be done*

*I say the orders that need to be fulfilled*

*I dream I am the greatest chef*

*I try to reach my greatest capability*

*I hope to achieve greatness*

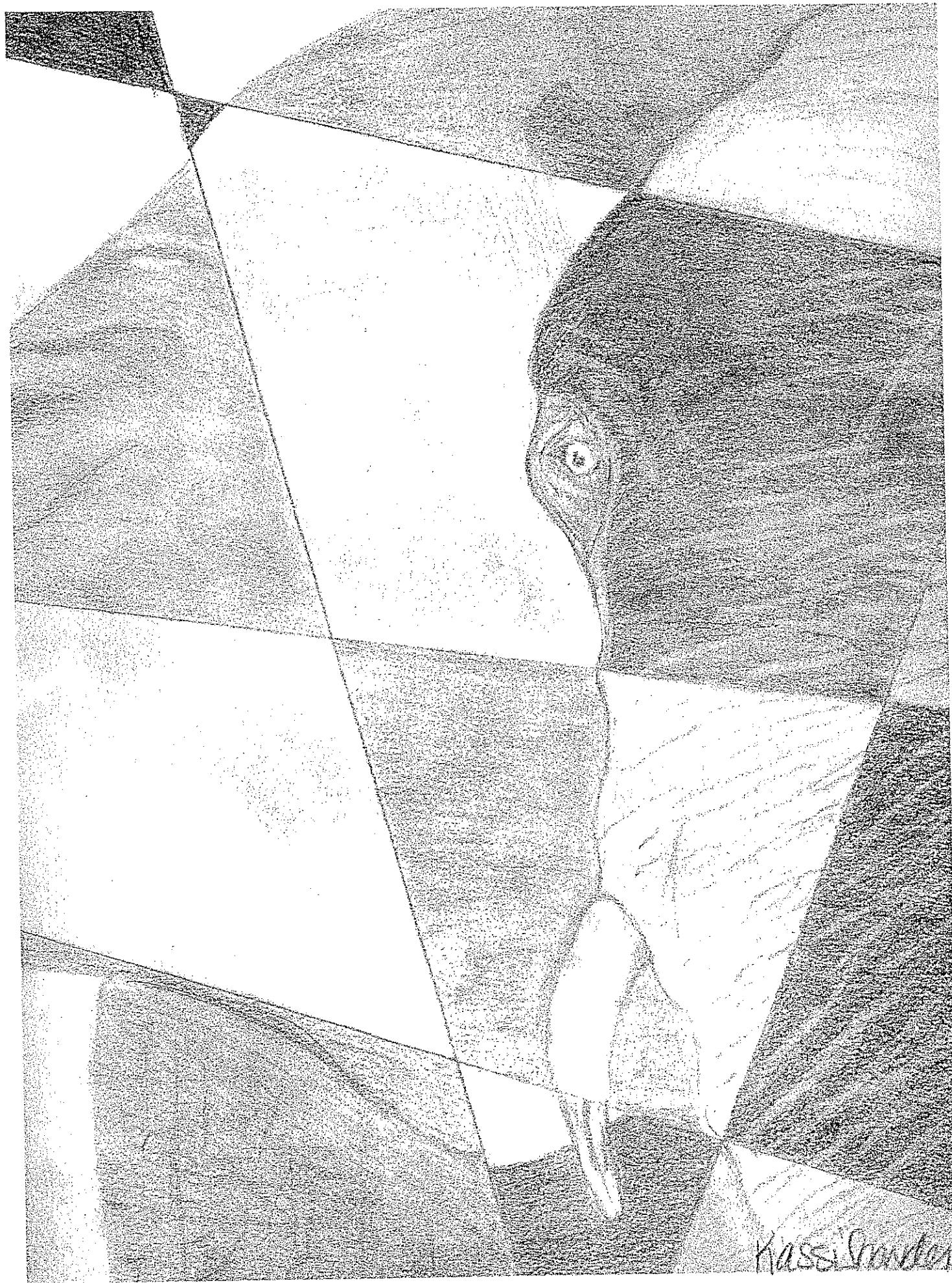
*I am independent and a perfectionist*

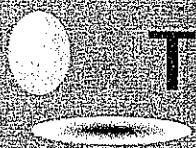
*Katie Blount*

## Advice to Train Your Dog

Do not yell at your dog just because it is barking; it probably wants to go outside and get some attention. Do not forget to give your dog food and water, that could be a hint, you have to take your dog out every half of an hour; you have to love it and play with it; if you are busy texting get over it; the dog is more important than texting no matter what you think; if your dog has too much energy get off your phone and take it for a walk; if you do not take your dog for a walk your parents will yell at you until you do. **If we do not take our dog for a walk what will happen?** You will get your phone taken away; **Can some one else take care of it?** No, the dog is completely your responsibility; dogs cost money and demand a lot of your time, so be prepared; do not forget to take it to the vet when it gets sick or needs a checkup (do not let it throw up in your neighbor's yard); do not forget to bathe your puppy or the neighbor's dog; do not forget that you are the ones that smell. If the dog is allowed to do everything in the house teach it to chew on a toy instead of your furniture; do not let the dog bark uncontrollably for hours at a time, or the neighbors might call the cops; do not let the dog go to the bathroom inside the house; hold it until the dog has an idea to let the dog go in the neighbor's house; you will not have any neighbors that like your dog anymore. You should buy your neighbors some flowers if the dog does any of those things. ●

By: Katie Blount





# The colorful World of Day and Night

By: Katelyn Tharp

Just before dawn time is purple  
The yellow bee sits awkwardly still  
The blue wind blows and orange rain falls in my heart  
It is difficult for anyone to escape our colorful world

Full is the ocean fair is the sun  
I see them loved like doves  
To the sky in the daylight sun  
Under the bright moon I see a dove

Your warm smile watched me write your name upon the soft  
gold sand  
The morning dawn is glazed upon the walls and windows which  
shine  
Pray on your lucky stars your not beyond the universe

I am a peacemaker and I am change.

I wonder about the world, why there is hate.

I hear the hum of the earth, spinning in its routine.

I see right through the blind, the shield; the charade.

I want a better tomorrow, a better today.

I am a peacemaker and I am change.

I pretend I don't see through the act, even though I do.

I feel the pressure pushing down on me, and I touch the bottom.

I worry I will not make it back to the top.

I cry when I realize it will not be as easy as I thought.

I am a peacemaker and I am change.

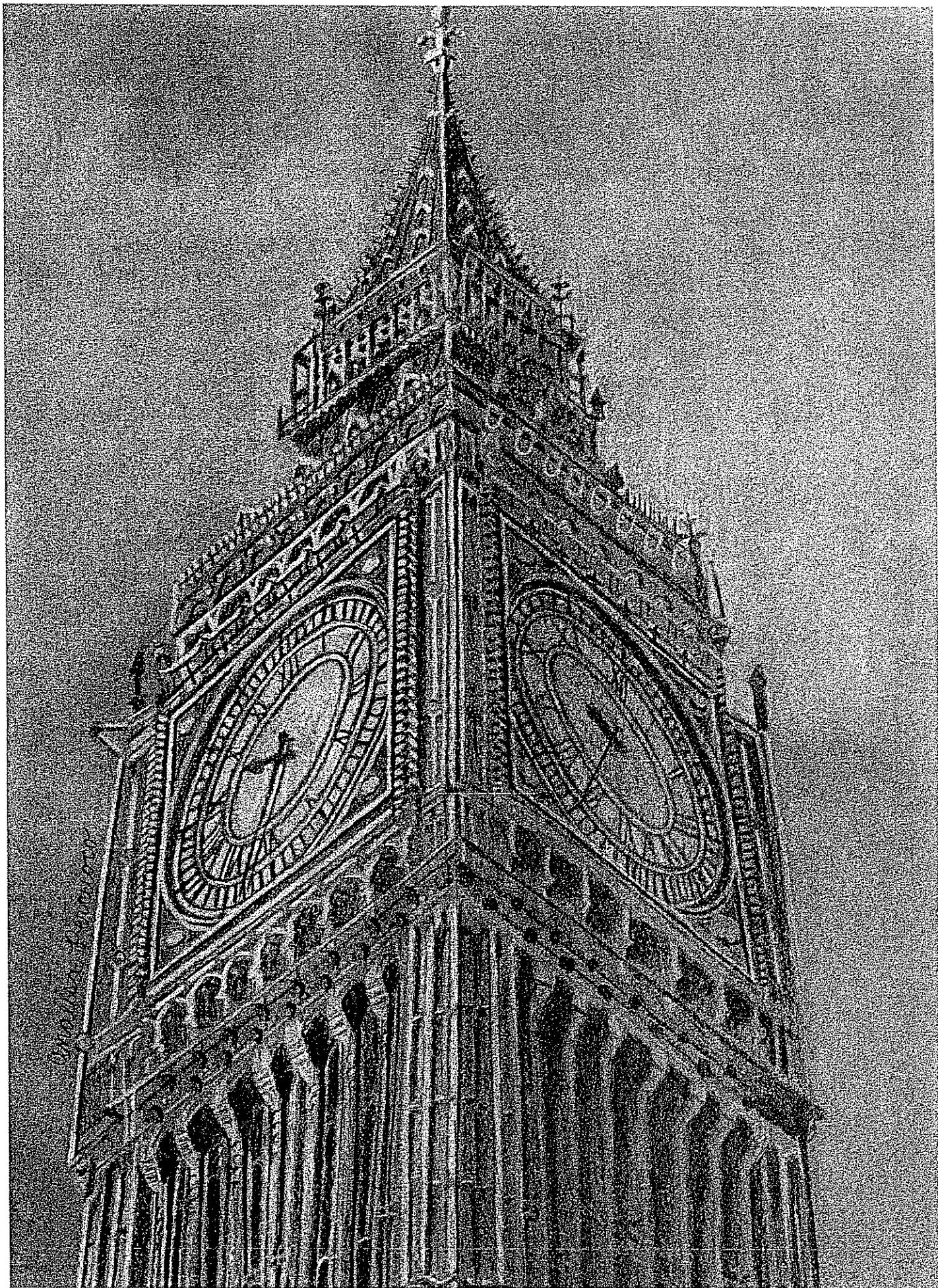
I understand change is slow, but still

I say change is now.

I dream of a happy ending,

I try to make it happen; to change the world.

I am a peacemaker and I am change.



## How To Be The Milwaukee Brewers

By: Ben Schroder

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This is how you win games; this is how to win playoff series; this is how to beat the Phillies; this is how to make it to the World Series; Mike Cameron—this is how to catch; Prince Fielder—this is how to get out of a slump; Everyone—this is how to help out CC and Ben Sheets; Dave Sveum—this is how to manage; this is how you replace Ned Yost; “*we know these things;*” then do them; what are you guys waiting for, an invitation? Heres one—the World Series; like it?-win; this is how to come from behind; this is how to be clutch; this is how to win games in the 9th; this is how to go in to extras; this is how to get to the World Series; this is how to be a leader; this is how to not make errors; this is how to catch grounder and fly balls; this is how to hit; this is how to pitch well; this is how to win at home; this is how to win on the road; this is how not to lose 11 out of 14 games; this is how to be a family; this is how to be the Milwaukee Brewers!

# Speeechies

By: kat clausen

I'M ON A BOAT  
**Rollin' with my speeechies**  
With the box car cheese.

We're with Stacie at the wheel  
*Weaving across the road*  
On the way to All-state.

We've got Nate with improv  
And Kate with Susan B.  
Then Shari on the marigolds  
**And Moe with the gruffalos.**

**We're the North Scott Speeechies**

Parents  
By  
Brianna Meyer

Watch out for your brothers and sisters; walk the dog; walk your sister home from school; always do your chores; never go to school and leave your bed unmade; Did you remember to put away your laundry?; Yes mom I did; I was just checking because you forget to put it away quite often; Remember to do your homework after your chores are done; How'd you get that grade?; It's a B, dad, what's so bad about that?; I know you can do better on it; I studied really hard for that test, so I'm sorry I didn't get an A; It's not the fact that you didn't get an A on it it's the fact that you could've gotten a better grade on it; You are a smart girl, so put that brain of yours to good use; don't give out personal information online; behave at school; What did you learn at school today?; remember to pick up your sister after school; don't talk to strangers; watch your sister; help make the meal; Why are you watching T.V.?; Is your homework done yet?; Yes mom my homework's done; Then you shouldn't be sitting around doing nothing, you have work to do; Come watch your brother and sisters while I take Sean to football; Have you taken the dog for a walk yet?; yes dad I have taken him for a walk; Alright I'm just checking because you forgot to walk him a lot; Don't walk Riley after dark; Do you have anything going on tonight?; No, why?; Because you need to baby-sit; can't I go to someone's?; No not tonight; Why not?; Because you need to baby-sit; whatever; Don't talk back to your mom; Be careful; watch out for you brothers and sisters.



# **The Sun Setting**

**by: Juliann Dickey**

I have seen  
the sun  
set with yellows  
blues and purples.

The world changes  
when the  
bright yellow sun  
sets in the clouds

The hills and trees  
seem so  
bright when the  
wind blows with  
the sunset.

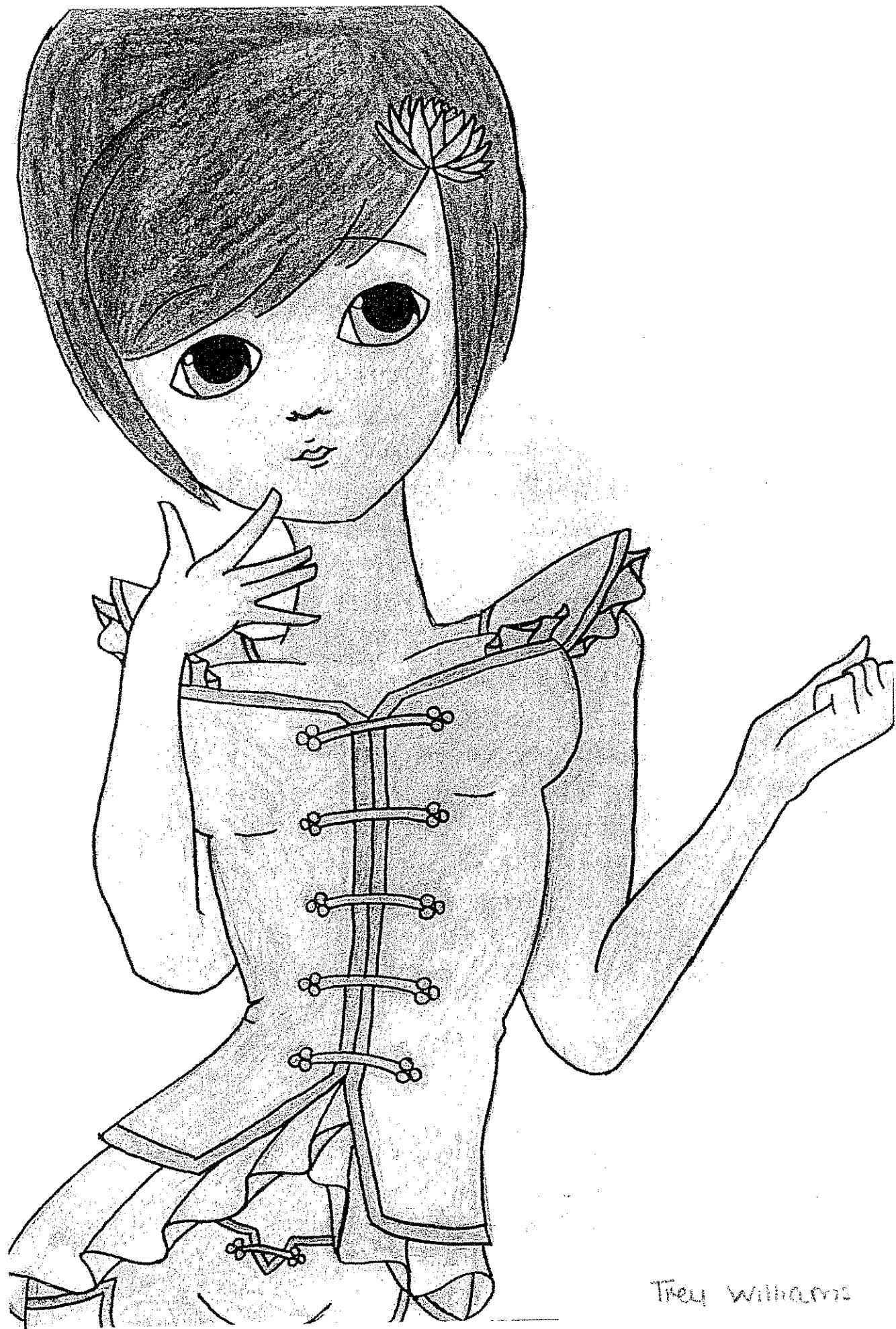
It relaxes the  
body and  
makes you want  
to smile when  
it sets in  
the clouds on  
the hills.

Bright skies makes  
you happy  
that you were  
outside today. Smile  
hug and cheer for  
such a wonderful day

Advice for the freshman band student

By: Maddy LeDoux

Never forget your instrument at home; never forget what time you have a band lesson; make sure that when you have a computer assignment that you know how to spell the name of your instrument; this is how you march; this is how you pin wheel; don't goof off- you will make your squad leader angry; write down your lesson time so you don't have to make them up; always wear the smelly uniforms o matter how much you don't want to; try not to trip while marching and avoid being called a stupid freshman; never forget your locker combination; don't keep wet shoes in your locker- they will start to smell; wear a costume for the senior show or else you will have to wear the smelly 25 year old uniforms; remember what chair you are for concerts; practice your music when told; and don't forget your lessons; practice your scales- you wont do so good if practice an hour the night before; this id how you put your books, an instrument, and a coat in your locker and not have them hit your face when you open it; this is how you survive freshman year.



Troy Williams

## The Right Thing

I finally did it! Something that has been bothering me since it happened. Today I turned a mistake into a right.

Today I faced my fears, stepped up and righted a wrong that should have been righted a long time ago. I faced my demons and did the right thing. I did the right thing and I think I gained some respect from him and for myself. For once in my life I am proud of myself for doing the right thing. I think now I can sleep better at night knowing I did the right thing.

-Cole Gay

## *I Am...*

I am a believer and true  
I wonder at the power He evokes  
I hear their maniacal voices echo  
I see their futile attempts  
I want the strength to resist  
I am a believer and true

I pretend I can't feel it, but I know He's there  
I feel the need to push forward  
I touch a fleeting faith  
I worry about time; how much is left?  
I cry when I remember life's simplicity  
I am a believer and true

I understand I am not alone  
I say we only need one thing  
I dream of the day when it makes sense  
I try to see the beauty everything holds  
I hope I reach that place  
I am a believer and true

~Samantha Beitzel

## **The Ancient man and his youth**

The ancient man,  
Lived on Barren land.

With his supplies,  
He shot his hopes through the dark.

He glanced a second time at his goal,  
a flickering light in the distance.

In his youth,  
A boy who was black as an endless pit,  
Smiles at the destruction of hope.

Sorrow follows him through doomsday mountains.  
Darkness was the heart of the boy.

They hung him with a knotted rope.  
He became awful still but,  
He did not die.

God gave him a second chance,  
He crossed an ocean dark as midnight.

He became the ancient man,  
Walking through doomsday mountains,  
Endlessly.

By;  
David Harrington

I am a tactful thorn and a troublesome  
torment.

I wonder how to get the best out of  
every situation.

I hear the hatred.

I see the fear.

I want to be unsurpassed.

I am a tactful thorn and a troublesome  
torment.

I try to care and worry about others.

I can not overcome the need to succeed.

I reach out to no one.

I worry I only care for myself.

I cry, never.

I am a tactful thorn and a troublesome  
torment.

I hear the pain of others.

I say never give up.

I try to live up to others expectations.

I hope that I can someday be beyond  
comparison.

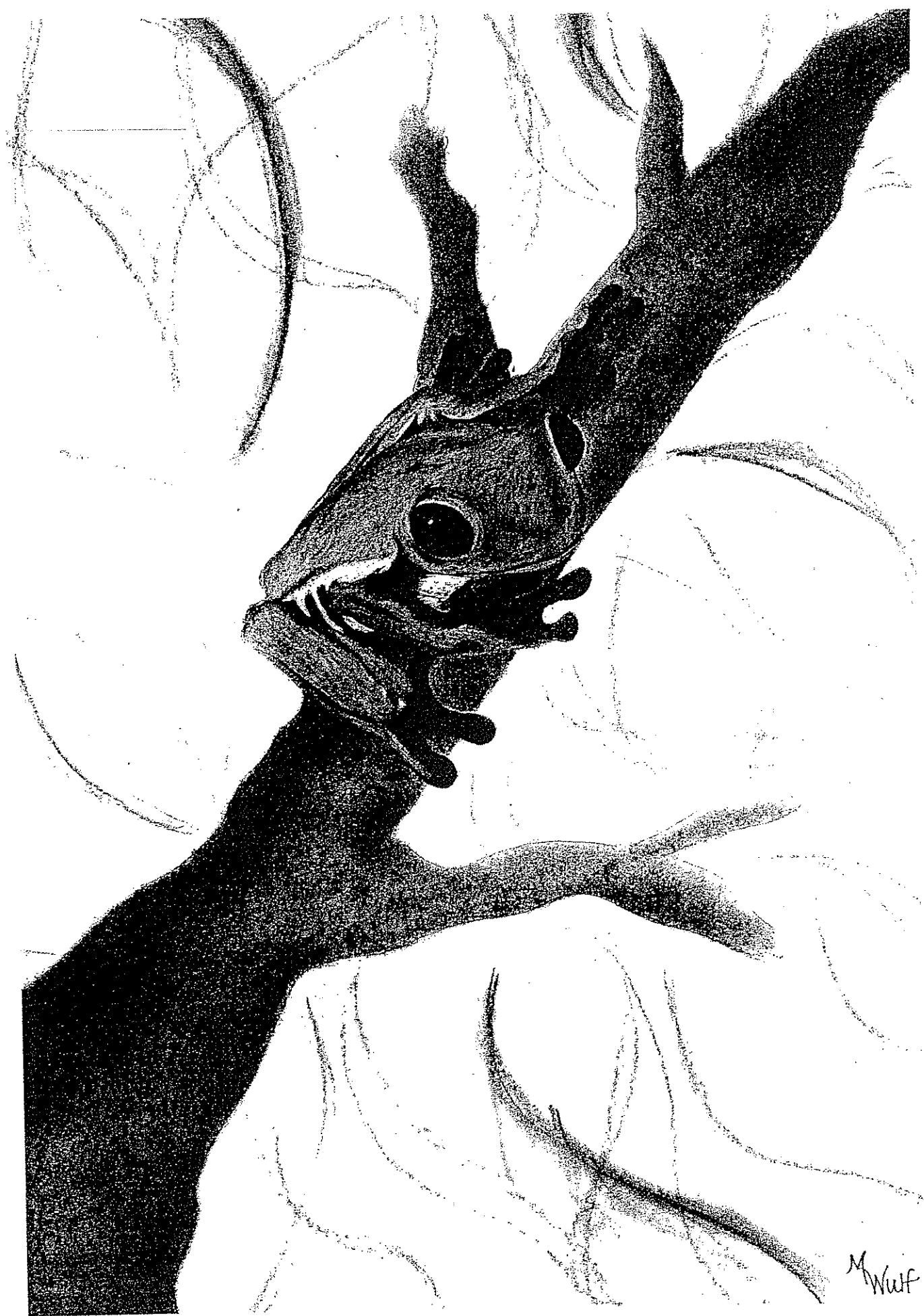
I am a tactful thorn and a troublesome  
torment.

By: Crystal Allen

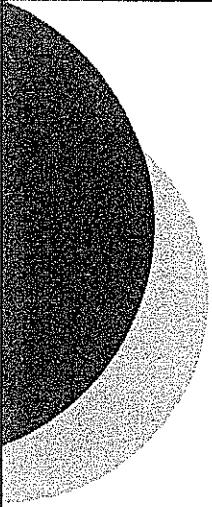
# -Advice on doing homework-

Do all your homework, always do your homework and when you're trying to do your homework don't go on Facebook and look at all your pictures that have been tagged of you or from the dance that weekend, or at your friends pictures, and don't be a loser and look at peoples wall to wall and although everyone does it, you should probably get a life and do your homework that was assigned to you, sometimes eating while doing homework helps but it usually distracts you from doing your work, and you might spill on your work and the next day when your teacher asks what happened you'll have to go into a long story explaining what happened and how you were not eating while doing your homework it just fell out of your binder in the cafeteria and landed on someone's lunch tray, and it happened to be the day that person chose to eat a wrap but they didn't like the sauce so they unwrapped the wrap and were in the process of removing the sauce but your paper decided to fly through the air and land on the open wrap covered in gross school lunch sauce, and despite the fact that you made the whole story up on the spot your teacher believes you and you accept it cause its only homework and teachers in high school feel like homework is only worth like 5 points so the story in itself earned you 5 points for the effort you put into making up the story. *What does that have to do with doing my homework?* I don't know but another tip is to listen to music while trying to do your homework, my favorite music to listen to is on Pandora, which is an online radio station that makes you create your own stations which only play music you like, its pretty handy, and I have many types of stations. *Do you ever get your homework done?* Well after I make myself comfortable with my music and my food I can concentrate and be sufficient in getting my homework done.

— Carrie Kilen



M Wuf



## I Am Not Yet Alone; Spare Me

---

Due to your demonstrated dastardly devotion  
It's unlikely they would have stopped you  
In your search for a quest that seemed worthy  
enough  
But

You are a friend-  
Your struggle is mine and mine is yours.  
Together we are consoling a broken child  
Like we would crying adults awakened to their  
ignorant lives  
And after that hurdle lies another  
So all we want is hope  
and our ticket away  
To a place with no chronic, aching hurt

We can't come apart you and I  
Because for us,  
A handshake served as a pact  
That we were in this together until the end

Due to your demonstrated dastardly devotion  
It's unlikely they would have stopped you  
In your search for a quest that seemed worthy  
enough  
But  
I will

Amanda Ploof

### Is It Love?

The comfort of one another,  
knowing they are always there.  
The feeling you get,  
that is too much to bear.  
Is it love?

The warmth of their presence,  
the smiles from gazing in their eyes.  
The bond so strong,  
and has the most truthful ties.

Fingers interlocking,  
palms pressed against one another.  
Arms brushing softly by,  
while walking to the place,  
where it is only you and him.  
Is it love?

A picture perfect place,  
where no harm will ever come.  
The place for only the two of you,  
that will never be ruined.  
Is it love?

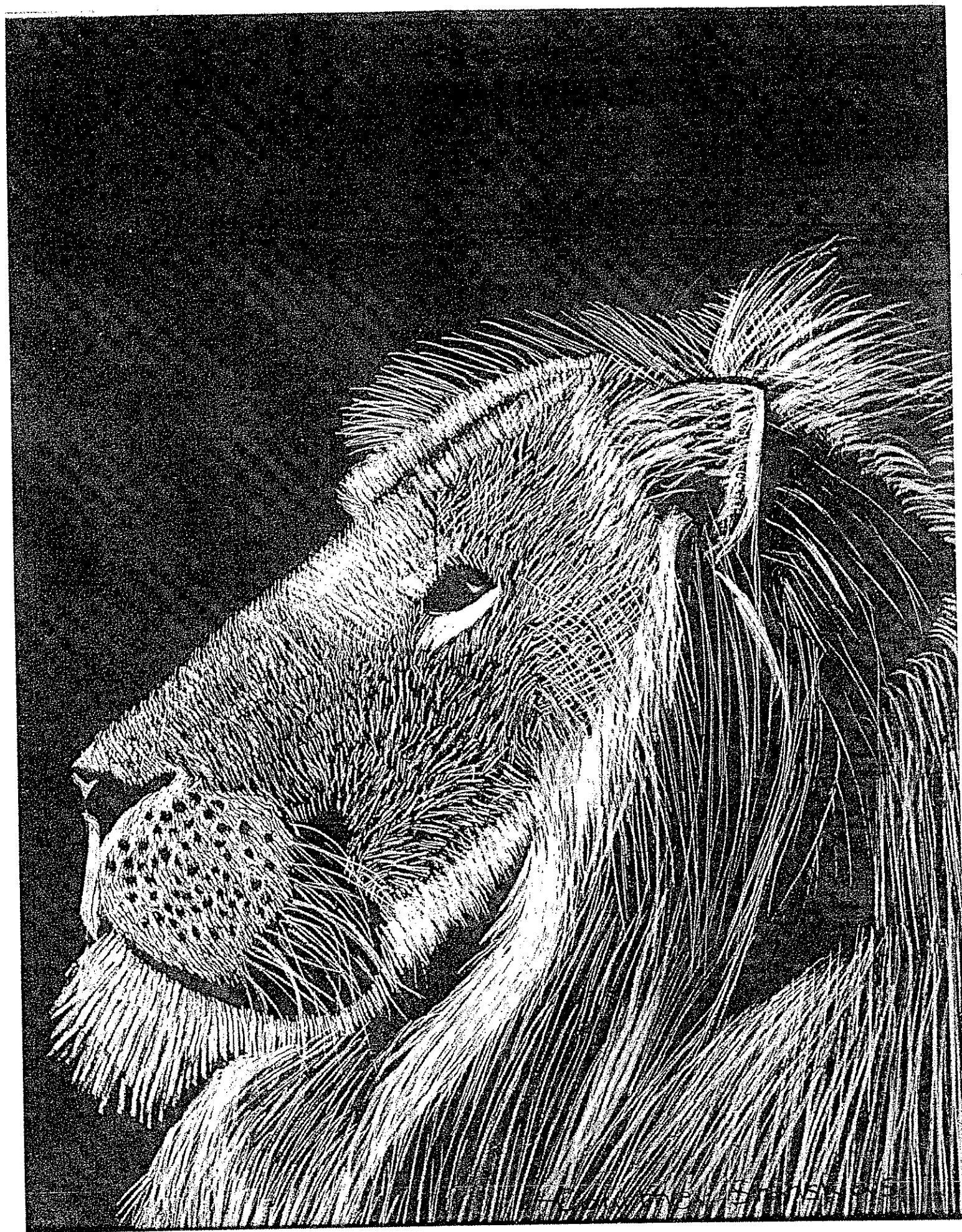
Hearing the soft spoken words,  
of the one who means the most.  
Wrapped tightly into each others arms,  
feeling  
The comfort of one another,  
knowing they are always there.  
The feeling you wish for,  
to find in your life.  
Is it love?

*Allyssa Ramos*

# Advice for a Student

Michael Harry

Remember to do your homework and turn it in on time; stay organized—stuffing papers away randomly is sloppy; don't be lazy or procrastinate; don't breathe loudly, sighs can become annoying; don't squeak your chair; expect the possibility of an unexpected turn of events; *but what if I forget something*; always be prepared for anything and everything; don't snap your gum in class; don't eat the wrapper off Stride gum—it's not rice paper; don't eat candy in class, others will become jealous of your treat; avoid biting your fingernails, you might need them sometime; don't write on desks, it just creates future distractions; don't forget to eat lunch; try to eat a snack in the afternoon; don't throw away your silverware at lunch, you'll just have to dig it out of the trash later; drink plenty of water during the day to stay hydrated; don't fall asleep in geometry, at least for very long; an iPod won't help you learn about world history; ask for help if you need it; *but what will others think about me if I ask for help*; asking for help is perfectly normal, don't worry about what others think; don't underestimate yourself; don't stress out over the little things; make new friends whenever you can—communication is essential; try to stay at peace with your friends—fighting accomplishes nothing; don't talk while a teacher is instructing, it will just annoy them and the rest of the class; pay attention, or you will drift off into a world of nonsense, never to be heard from again; don't stare at the clock, it just slows time down; multitasking will just slow you down, try not to play with the water faucets in biology; study as much as possible so you will be prepared for the next test, which is coming up sooner than you think; take a break once in a while—you deserve it; don't forget to set your alarm clock so you don't accidentally oversleep; if something does go wrong, ad lib; there is a fine line between working hard and hardly working; make up work as soon as possible if you are sick; dress appropriately for the weather, or you'll freeze during marching band rehearsal; try not to borrow money from people—you might forget to pay them back later; if you lend out pencils to your friends, make sure you still have a pencil left to write with; most of all, remember to have a good time.



## *Daylight Hours*

Before the sun sets and the darkened streets come  
alive

She is serene, caught as in reveries.

While torrents rouse the hell born spirit within her  
She stumbles – a solitary being.

The sun has set and brought to life  
A fairytale sent meandering through his ear.  
He is intimidated.  
She will surely shatter his apprehension.

This evening, amid the comforting radiance  
Her opinion transforms,  
Becoming a beacon of light.  
An airless murmur of guidance.

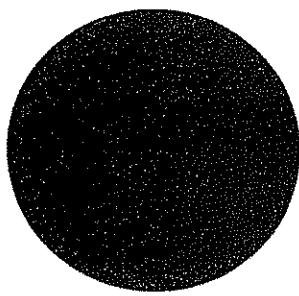
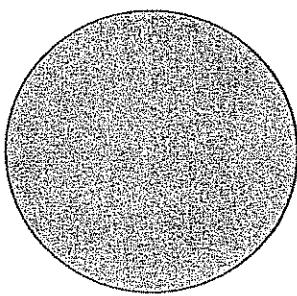
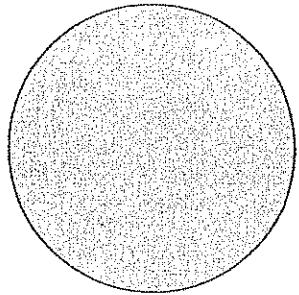
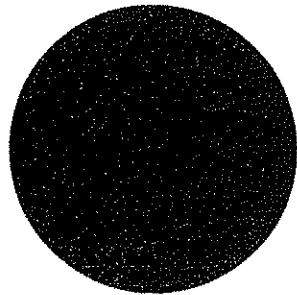
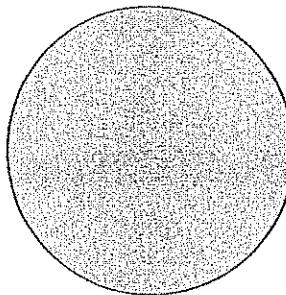
One day ends yet the sun will again greet them with  
Resonating voices who unite with acidic song.

~Samantha Beitzel

By Darion Schaefer

*In memory of...*

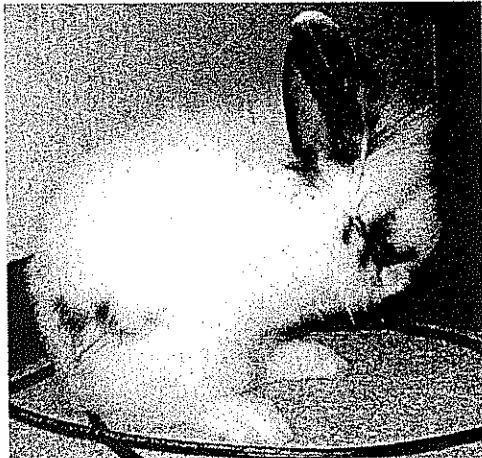
# *scar*



*I am the memory; I am what is left*

*I wonder where he is and how he is doing*

*I hear the soft sniffling of his little nose; the bang of his little nose; the bang of his hops around  
his cage*



*I see his brown eyes, staring up at me*

*I want him back*

*I am the memory; I am what is left*

*I pretend I didn't walk away*

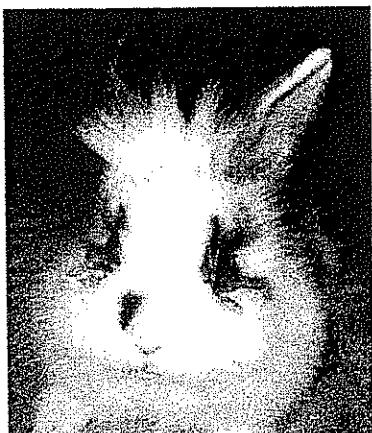
*I feel his ears, long and soft*

*I touch his fur, like silk in every strand*

*I worry that I was wrong*

*I cry when I think of walking away; of not looking back*

*I am the memory; I am what is left*



Photos by: Darion Schaefer

*I understand I can never have him back*

*I say that God should have gotten his own rabbit; he is mine*

*I dream that any other had gotten it*

*I try to forget; I try to move on*

*I hope that I met him again*

*I am the memory*

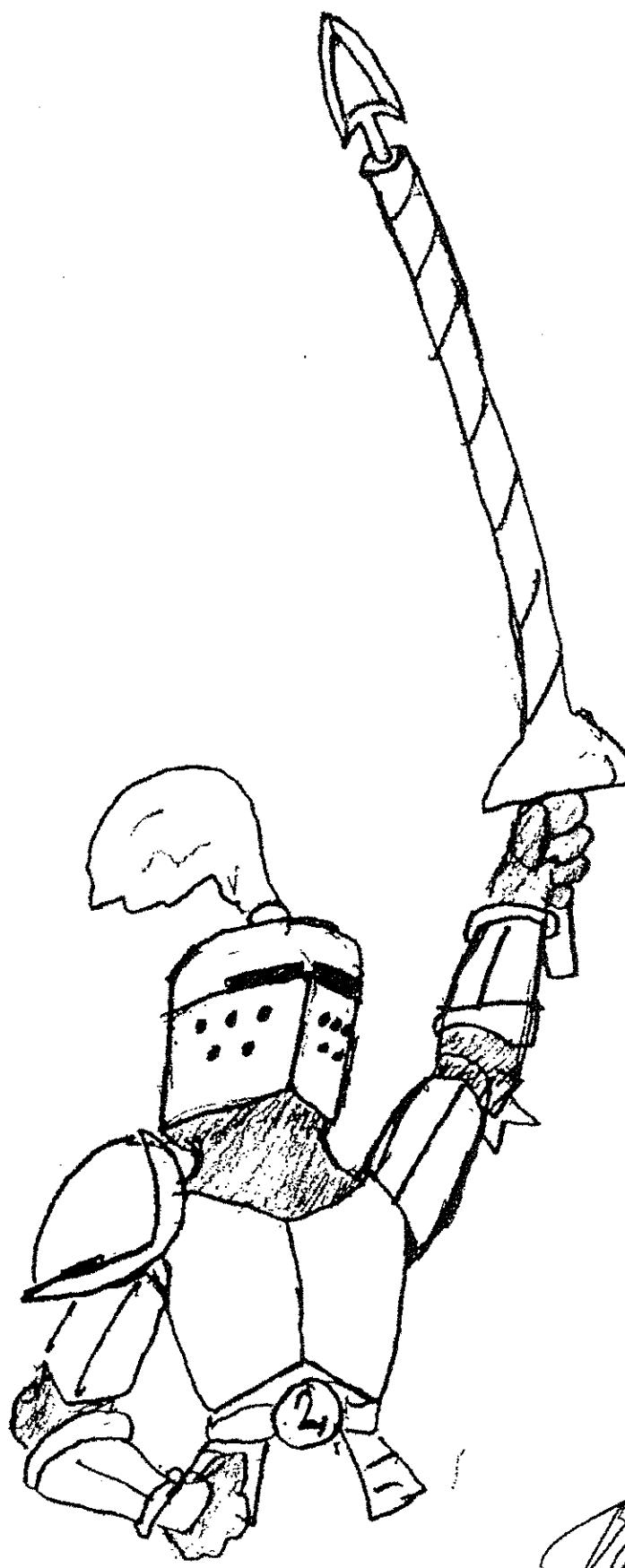
*I am what is left.*

## How to Enjoy Autumn

Wait for the leaves to settle upon the ground; the longer you wait, the more leaves there will be, so find an ounce of patience; another plus to waiting is the leaves will become crunchy; be sure there are no stragglers;

go to your garage or wherever else you might keep your tools; sift through them until you find a rake; what if I have more than one?; if you happen to have more than one, pick the rake that looks sturdiest; if they are all sturdy, pick the rake that is easiest for you to handle; if all the rakes are easy to handle, you are out of luck; once there, fetch a rake; keep the rake with you and return to the fallen leaves; rake the leaves into a pile; the bigger the pile the better; perfect the pile to your liking; perhaps construct it to be tall and deep; big and wide; maybe even a combination of the two; walk precisely thirty feet away from your pile and set the rake on the ground; what if I walk only twenty-nine feet?; anything less and you will surely be hurt; the enthusiasm provoked by a pile of leaves surpasses all else; do this to ensure you do not jump on your rake; if you jumped on your rake, I can guarantee you will not be a happy person; leaf piles are not meant to hurt you; please do not give others that idea by jumping on your rake and permitting them to see your pain; mothers will forbid their children from going near leaf piles; leaves will sorely miss being raked into piles and children jumping into them; walk back to the pile and stand a foot away from the very edge; plant your feet shoulder width apart; bend your knees; since you should already know how to jump, move from the position I mentioned above and jump into the leaf pile; this action should be repeated until the jumper is so tired they can hardly put the rake away and walk into their house.

~Samantha Beitzel



Tadeg

# Soccer

By: Abbie Cahill

Play as a team; be aggressive; stay back on defense; push up on offense; run for every ball; do not let the ball go out of bounds; do not use your hands unless you happen to be a goalie; watch for offsides; be careful not to be too aggressive or you might receive a pretty yellow or red card; do not talk back to the refs even if they make a terrible call; this is how you make a good pass; this is how you make a good run off the ball so your coach does not yell at you for just standing there; this is how you score; this is how you score without being offsides; this is how you throw in a ball without lifting your feet; this is how to beat the defenders; this is how to cross the ball in front of the goal; never pass the ball through the middle in front of your own goal; *but I never pass the ball through the middle in front of my own goal*; this is how you get the water for practice and this way the upperclassmen and coaches won't be mad at you; when you do have water duty, always get a ride from an upperclassman or you'll be late to practice; work hard at practice and don't make excuses or whine—no one appreciates it; always be on time for games and practice; don't miss the bus; *but what if I am running late?*; do not make excuses; play hard; do it for the love of the game; stay light on your feet; anticipate the ball; trap it so it will stay close; dribble less, pass more; play with your heart; play for your school; play for your family; play for your team; play for your pride; play for yourself.



## I AM...ME

*I am overly joyous and odd.*

*I wonder why people are more concerned with the rain than the proceeding rainbow.*

*I hear music everywhere, even in a quiet room.*

*I see objects and people dancing everywhere, even when no one else does.*

*I want for happiness and peace like most people do, but I secretly wish for chaos too.*

*I am overly joyous and odd.*

*I pretend I can fly like Peter Pan.*

*I feel pain when darkness prevails.*

*I touch the real world, but wish for the world in my dreams.*

*I worry that no one else understands me.*

*I cry the plants that die in the fall, but jump for joy at winter's snowfall.*

*I am overly joyous and odd.*

*I understand that I may be too much to handle.*

*I say that laughter truly is the best medicine.*

*I dream of bright colors, cool nights, and starry skies.*

*I hope for a world with strange folks like me that use words like plethora and nifty.*

*I am overly joyous and odd.*

**By: Kristyn Griesbach**

# The Undesired

They were speaking as one

In a voice that resounded in harmony,

The whispers of hate a steady hum in the back of their minds;

Arguing truth and lies in devious and conniving ways.

Now all the good shall wonder—

Is the murmur that beckons their guilty conscience from its hiding place;

The tempting call from the darkness;

Showing them a reality through opened eyes?

This world, with its chaos and trouble, was surely not their own,

Was it? In their minds, of course not.

To the quiet ones, it was; so who did it belong to?

The creators of harmony and peace,

Or the clear viewers of the world?

Both argued over the fate of that planet,

And the good became hateful; then the aware,

In their knowledge, became peaceful.

How quickly things change when

The wanted becomes the unwanted.

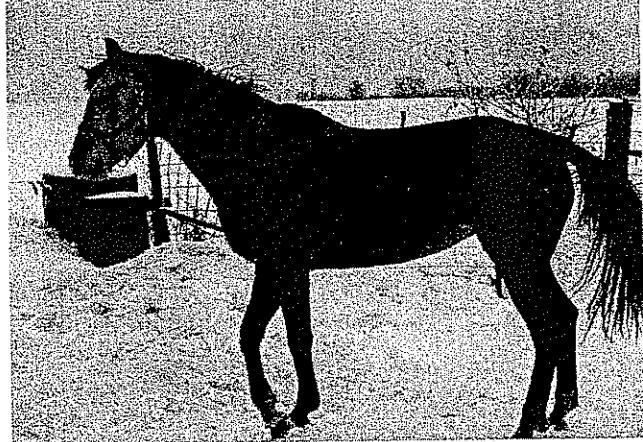


Photo By: Alaina Hill

**The Ebon Babe  
A Scamper Poem  
By: Alaina Hill**

Like cloudy days forsake sunny skies  
Snowflakes bustle across coat of gray  
Beginning of a blackened brook in brown eyes  
What message do your chocolate eyes convey?

A wind unfurled your peppercorn tassel  
A breeze tossed your silver mane  
Reveled fondly in pasture castle  
Loving nibbles nibbled on clover vein

You need not hate your muddy coat  
She'll shed to silken pearl  
Your baby a mousy brown black does denote  
The ebon babe and mother of pearl

A fine babe you will keep  
Like his mother he will be strong  
You'll watch over while he sleeps  
You'll teach him right from wrong

A perfect baby you shall raise  
You, my Dolly girl  
And in the pasture both do graze  
The ebon babe and his mother of pearl

# My Dream Came True

By: Juliann Dickey

When I Dream, I Dream Of You.

When I Am With You I Cannot Believe.

I Hoped and Prayed For You For Years and Years.

Know You Are Here With Me.

When You Touch Me I Get Shivers.

When You Kiss Me We Sparkle.

You Are My Night And Shinning Armor.

You Are There When I Need Protection.

You Are There When I Need Love.

You Are There When I Need To Cry.

You Are There When I Need To Talk.

You Rescue Me When I Need TO Be Saved.

You Are Mine And I Am Yours.

You Are My Dream Come True.

# Apathy

By Caitlyn Nass

I am but a human, admitting this flaw-  
That those with swords will find their glory, but I have no care to battle even  
the wind.

I am bowed, by the pull of emptiness I lean  
To see hundreds of blind and helpless snakes held captive in their coils.  
How little I care about even these, the underground!

How I wish to slay this beast-apathy, artfully crafted in itself.  
I once flew with purpose-filled feet, but vision's now blurred in my part of  
the sky.

Like a badge, I wore my plastic trophies  
But they were cracked by the hardened darkness in my eyes, the place  
where silence found a home.

I feel no care even for safety, no fear of witches or their charms.

If one does possess empathy, please, come-lend me your passion.  
For my throat cares not for the snakes' fiery universe, only for its own.

I care not for their clothing, made up of only patches.  
I care not for their fear, their hesitation to try and be the best.  
I care not for their tears, the welling up of their nostalgia into  
consciousness.

I should be grateful and gracious-but I am a claw that shreds through  
priceless gifts.

Show me love and compassion, the secret place where the blessed dance  
all night.

Show me how to laugh without a drink; celebrate a festive hour without  
sin...

So I, too, can walk a laudable way of life.

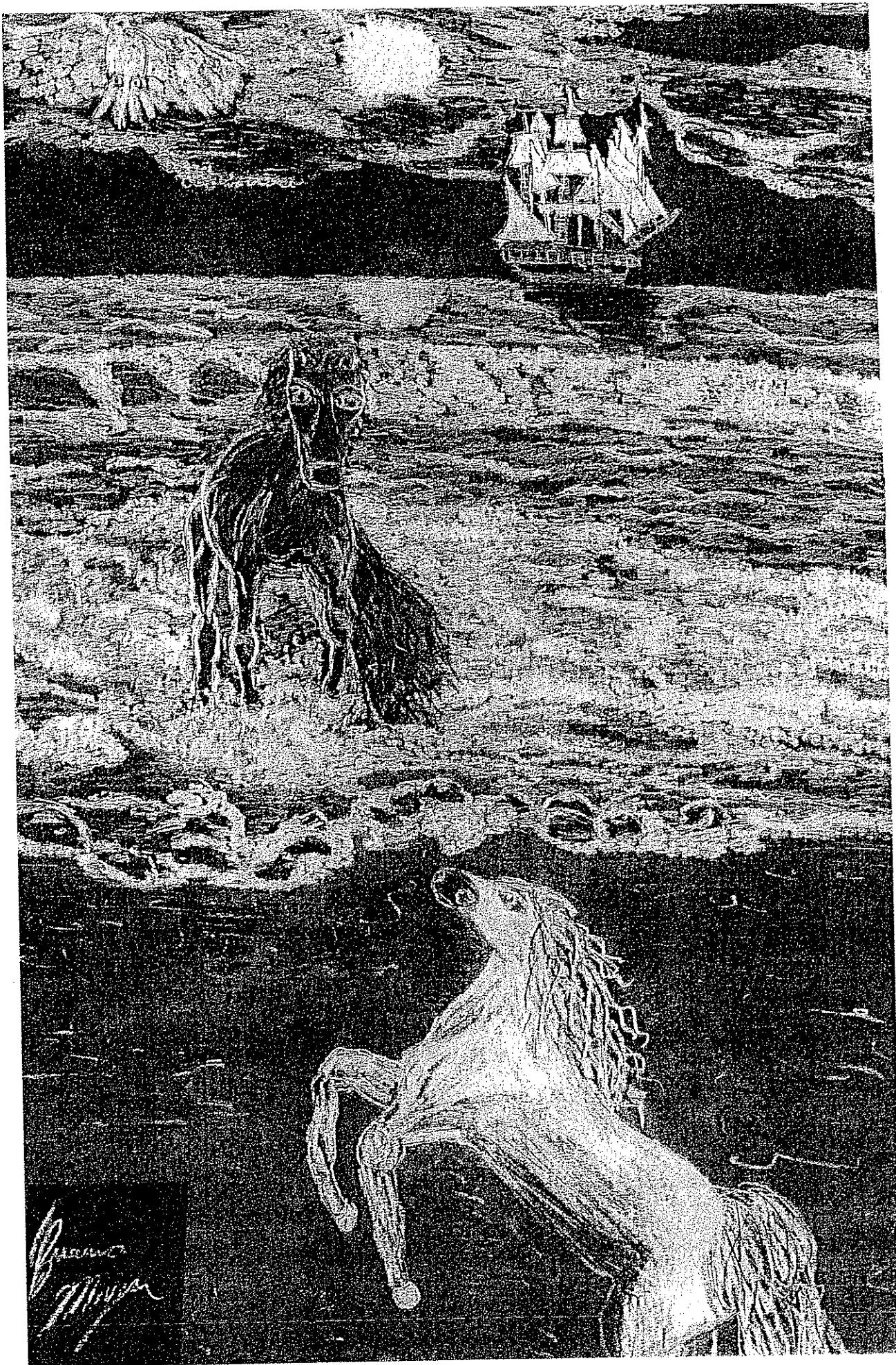
# I Am...

## Adam Perrin

I am a wrestler. I am a champion  
I wonder how I end up this year  
I hear my fans cheering  
I see my family and friends  
I want that feeling again  
I am a wrestler. I am a champion.

I pretend I'm unstoppable  
I feel unsatisfied  
I touch my gold medal with pride  
I worry about nothing  
I cry when I get my hand raised  
I am a wrestler. I am a champion.

I understand anything can happen  
I say I won't be beat  
I dream of having 4 framed brackets  
I try my best every match  
I hope to be on top of the podium again  
I am a wrestler. I am a champion.



Song

Come sit with me and listen, my love

That God on his throne grasps around for?

Only God shall compare music to a summer's day

Within heaven or hell, find the power to sing

Storms of song lift off your soul

Be silent during those songs

Chasing after my stars

Our happiness intertwined

The most romantic of songs!

Softly he sung, as I slept

Haunted with romance

This night sounds lovely; it makes me want to keep my windows open

To have song- how miraculous!

I shall never stop listening-ever

## I Am

I am an adventurer and a traveler  
I wonder what experiences lay in the path ahead of me  
I hear the call of the wild, and the need to explore  
I see the future explorations that will soon fill my life  
I want to be remembered, and live an ambitious life  
I am an adventurer and a traveler

I pretend to skydive and rock climb in places that nobody has ever seen  
nor imagined  
I feel myself soaring through the sky weightless and trouble less  
I touch the moment of excitement, and the feeling of tranquility  
I worry that one day these amazing experiences will come to an end  
I cry when I think that someday I will not be able to adventure,  
knowing that there is always more to explore  
I am an adventurer and a traveler

I understand that not everyone will get these experiences and  
I say that I am very fortunate to be able to do what I have done  
I dream that others will proceed my being, and pursue the travels  
that I have once pursued  
I try to help others realize how unique the world can be and  
I hope that others realize the same things that I do  
I am an adventurer and a traveler

By: Darren Dillon

# Whop

Who fought with the snake at the end of all time?  
Battling the menacing shadows *looming* in the darkness  
And in the morn the Disciples gather  
Demons stoking their hearts sinful desire  
That snake, tempting them, whispering into their ear  
Peter, who took the oath of loyalty and denied thrice  
Judas, whose betrayal surpassed all measure  
Thomas, the doubter, who had to ask  
And yet HE has known since the beginning  
That there will still be horrible suffering  
But there will be yellow butterflies as well,  
As we drank wine together he promised he would return  
The unfaithful face suffering, the good reward  
And the reward! Did you see it?  
For us earthly riches mean nothing for  
No longer did I have to be a mortal, bathed in sin

--Travis Reed

## Advice for Younger Siblings

Some advice for the younger siblings of a family: don't talk back to your older brother or sister; they're bigger than you, smarter than you, and much more mature than you, deal with it. It's not funny when you kick them, hit them, fight them, or bite them, it just proves how dumb you are, its like a rabbit trying to take on a tiger; you are doomed to be a good snack if you are not careful, oh, and a note for older siblings, feel free to show your seniority but don't be a jerk about it, you were their age at one point too.... of course YOU were never that immature or that stupid, you knew not to barge into rooms without permission; its rude, you knew not to slurp your cereal or talk with your mouth open, (wow, I sound like a parent), but to be honest it is annoying, we don't want to see partially chewed hotdog lounging around inside your mouth. Don't play your rap crap excessively loud out of your car window, you aren't black and chances are no one around you is either, no one wants to hear about how 50 cent beats his wife every night before going out and getting in a gang fight with the neighborhood kids, its isn't cool, don't hog the internet or the phone; whatever your older sibling is doing is bound to be more important than anything you could have planned; don't complain about your homework, your food, or your teachers; we all went through it too, you will live! Remember to feed the dog, if he dies because of you no one in the household will be happy, if your sibling comes in late don't be a tattle-tale; it doesn't get you anywhere in life and I am sure that you will be paid back later. Don't be afraid to go out and have fun; let go of your fears and your insecurities but don't do anything that you will regret later: you have to live with your decisions and your acts forever and you always affect the people around you too; sometimes it is as simple as they will lose some sleep thinking about what happened to you but at times you can have an even greater impact on someone else, you may end the life of someone else because you were out drinking while driving, sure you were having a great night but that great night only lasts what.... 5-6 hours and then it all comes crashing down, the reality of what you did lasts forever. As a younger person you may want to go all out as soon as you are free, but as your older sibling can probably attest, its not all that people make it out to be, especially if someone gets hurt.

--Travis Reed



give



love



laugh

Nicole Fahrenkrug

I am

I am disappointed and in disgust

I wonder when it will happen

I hear the screaming of the crowd

I see the score

I wont ever give up

I am disappointed and in disgust

I pretend that we won

I feel like my heart was torn out

I touch the trophy

I worry that we will never win

I cry when the time runs out

I am disappointed and in disgust

I understand that it takes a lot of hard work

I say that we will continue on

I dream of winning it all

I try my hardest everyday

I hope the championship will be ours

I am disappointed and in disgust

Dane Mikkelsen

## Advice to parents

Children are precious and should be handled with great care. Let children be free, but do not let them make every decision by themselves. Although children can be a pain, they are also the one thing in your life that will always be there. Children will be there with you your whole life. Without children, lives would be miserable. Parents would have no grandchildren and have nothing to look forward to in life. Children make your life much better than you think. Children are taken for granted and parents do not realize what they are going through. Parents always need to have a close relationship with their children. The best way to do that is to have a nice dinner every night. It may not seem like much, but it brings the whole family together. If children are not close to their parents, they will feel betrayed. Many parents disregard their children and then the children feel that they need to seek someone or something to love them. Parents need to talk to their children even about the littlest things. Anything and everything will help gain a closer relationship with children. Many times a child will try to isolate themselves away from society. It is sometimes alright for a short period of time, but if the isolation continues, it can lead to extremely bad things

Dane Mikkelsen

## The Silent Death

By: Crystal Allen

Sixty years I have been worked 'til only flesh  
remained

With bare hands I shave the tortured skin with  
shame

Now near death, starving and begging I crawl  
through the wretched streets

Upon the steps of glass I lay; black blood flowing  
from my wounds

My flaws are the only reminder I am still alive  
While others pass I watch in anguish as they laugh  
and smile at my state

The temptation of death envelops me  
But I must not surrender now, for laying me back  
in the earth I would pass without a sound

With age I have come to value the losses  
And for long time I wandered this earth, much like  
my soul, dingy, dry, and desolate

I believe there is no purpose now, I am nothing but  
a mold, let go without resistance my story has  
been told

## The Great Escape

The brown sand soaked up the vicious rain from the heavens

My angelic wings are wet from the downpour

While pondering about my future, I gazed upon the shimmering stars

I randomly walk down winding roads and sneak past watching eyes

I search for the day that I will become a grown man

The whistling wind called my name out to guide me through my troubles

The angry swarm is buzzing through the forgotten fields

The soft song became extremely long

My reasoning flew out of the window

I see society judging me like a mirror

I cannot stand this torture any longer

Someone is holding me back against my will

A man chases his dreams like a lion chases his prey

I have the spirit of a lion

We rose with a deafening silence

By: Dane Mikkelsen

# WAR

By: Anthony Isely



I do wish, the people declare war for their freedom  
They might seem stronger and far too powerful for defeat  
No foe, no enemy, no wretch had passed her border before  
The beach of freedom was dark in the wake of the Storm  
Heroic visions swam through his mind like a knight before battle  
The battlefield coated with hate, CRAAAACCKK, the first shot  
As the roars of Hell echoed  
Heroes ride on watercrafts through blood red tide  
The general ordered his men into the hellfire  
Life and death became a reality as the world spun  
Screamed at, by the wounded, I never turned back  
Struggling with the Storm's weight on his back  
His enemies could not slip from Death's grip  
Slowly the dust unveils a victor!



Their old friend, the rain washed them clean from the evidence of sin  
How easily humans entertain themselves with war  
I have witnessed more than a young man ought to bear on his conscience  
The experience peered form the corners of my mind, a soldier's creed  
Who battled the self-inflicted, brutal attack on my mind  
Go home, and tell my wife I died with valor  
For my flag and country, tell mother, I lay in rest

# I Am

Michael Harry

I am clever and thoughtful

I wonder about how things work

I hear the sound of the midnight train

I see progress

I want peace for everyone

I am clever and thoughtful

I pretend to be brilliant

I feel great

I touch the lives of many

I worry about the country

I cry for the fallen

I am clever and thoughtful

I understand what is going on

I say what I think

I dream about the future and the past

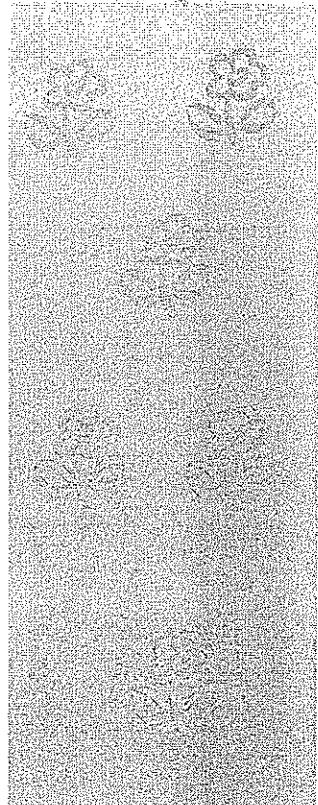
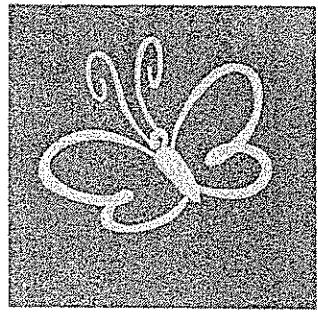
I try to better myself

I hope for prosperity in everyone's lives

I am clever and thoughtful

## My Little Sister

Allow yourself to be who you want to be; don't let anyone tell you who you are; stick up for what you think is right and don't fall into peer pressure; peer pressure just shadows who you really are and kind of make you look stupid; ha trust me, I've had experience; you're gorgeous, don't let anyone tell you differently; people will get jealous and try to bring you down, but just ignore them; eventually people will see how strong you are and they will admire you; don't admire people just because of how popular they are; do admire people for doing what's right; never ever blend in with people; stand out; how?; in a good way, of course; be creative, don't copy what other people do; be a leader not a follower; never back down from your point of view, and stick to it; don't dress to impress but dress to define who you really are; don't spend two hours in the morning getting ready to impress a boy; truth is, you look the same when you get ready in thirty minutes; don't ever wear shirts that are too low, and shorts that are too short; your clothes define you; plus you give boys a temptation; boys are a subject in their own; I'm going to break it down for you, they are stupid!; never let a boy define you; don't ever change for a guy; most of them are players, whether you want to believe it or not; never look for a true relationship in high school; don't fall in love in high school; what about guy friends? find good guy friends, they are normally your best friends in tough situations; your girl friends will change, and you might lose and gain some, it's ok, make sure you don't betray your friends, never kiss your best friends crush, never lie to your best friend, never let yourself like your best friends guy, don't ever let the guy know you like him; don't sneak behind your friends back and text; again I say, stay away from boys; they cause drama; enjoy your childhood; you only get one chance; although it may be hard, **ALWAYS** listen to dad; he is smart, and knows what he's talking about; he says some of the things you think are crazy because he loves you; in fact, I absolutely love you to death; don't ever forget it; I will always be there for you.



I am diligent and passionate  
I wonder what my future hold for me  
I hear the crowd screaming  
I see the goal ahead  
I want a victory  
I am diligent and passionate

I pretend to score the winning goal  
I doubt myself often  
I feel the perfectly cut grass underneath my feet  
I touch the ball into the net  
I worry that I will let the team down  
I cry when we lose  
I am diligent and passionate

I understand I will not always win  
I say to work my hardest  
I dream to be the best  
I try to make it happen  
I hope to be successful  
I am diligent and passionate

Abbie Cahill



# I AM

Derek Kupris

**I am a die-hard Miami Dolphins fan.**

I wonder if we will make the super bowl next year.

I hear the sound of chanting from Dolphin's Stadium.

I see an undefeated record next year.

I want championship ring.

**I am a die-hard Miami Dolphins fan.**

I pretend that the Dolphins did not go 1-15.

I feel a playoff birth next year.

I touch the jersey of Ronnie Brown.

I worry they will have another losing record.

I cry when we lose just about every game.

**I am a die-hard Miami Dolphins fan.**

I understand that it takes time to win games.

I say to myself that they are a good team—when they are not.

I dream of one day seeing a Dolphin's game.

I try to keep optimistic about them, even though they suck.

I hope to one day attend a Dolphin's Super Bowl game.

**I am a die-hard Miami Dolphins fan.**

# Dress For Success

Kelli Golinghorst

Always have clean clothes, never wear anything for more than two days between washings, clean clothes say something; they make you neat and smart, also keep your look sharp; never leave the house without pressing clothing that absolutely requires it, but then again do not leave looking like a stiff piece of parchment, and if you are confused about what to wear and have no fashion sense at all, just remember that classics, like polos, khakis, and basic colors, (try to avoid colors that will not enhance or mesh with your skin tone or hair color) will always be in style, although problems can arise from these clothing choices too, many kids these days have become slightly obsessed with the prep style, sometimes going so far that they look like they just stepped out of a golf magazine, so wear everything in moderation, the only day the crazy mix-matching outfits will be acceptable will

be on crazy day, which is about once a year,

*But how do I look good while at the same time show my cool personality?; one way to look extremely different than the average cut and paste kid is to experiment with bright colors, funky accessories, and subtle patterns, avoid grandma prints such as flowers, bright animal prints or even rainbow shapes, leave those atrocities to the clowns, but there are*

other fashion mistakes that you should try to dodge no matter the situation, it is disgusting when people get a view of a girl's bottom or cleavage, it is fine and even within fashion rules to wear a low cut shirt, but the catch is that there has to be something under it, this is another day for one to put their own touch to an outfit, guys on the other hand need to keep their pants pulled up, the public does not need to see your backside, wear a belt, hike 'em up, if you follow these guidelines you should see the effects of your change immediately; people will respect you more and value your opinion, don't let your fashion decisions ruin your opportunities for the rest of your life, throw out all of your ugly clothes and see the dramatic difference right away!

# The Incredible Journey

By

Ben Schroder

While crossing a sea as bright as day,  
A shark rages below him.  
He continues on his journey with the stealth of a coyote.  
Along fields and hill-sides, rushing through streets;  
He skirmished with stags, sledded down slippery slopes,  
raced stallions, and swashbuckled with scaliwags.  
Suddenly, claws of a falcon gripped, and took him into the  
shy.  
Over a mountain, this pilot guides him  
The falcon's shadow stretches, shaped like a hunched bird.  
The great bird dropped him, where a mountain-cat guarded  
a greater foe;  
She sat in the mouth of a cave, eyes closed.  
The mountain-cat leapt at the man, so he led him to a fro-  
zen lake.  
The cat stood on a lake of thin ice...  
As the owls gazed, "Crack," went the ice and the cat with it.  
While celebrating his victory by a dancing fire he heard a  
noise in the woods;  
Then two eighty pound rats burst out the forest!  
Down a ribbon of moonlight, the rats chased him;  
He led them to black cliffs gleaming through sleet,  
Where the rats slipped and were tossed upon cloudy seas.  
The man grins for he know he is a warrior not of the blade,  
but of the mind, having vanquished his foes without a sin-  
gle blow of his sword.

# I am a Dancer

I am a dancer.  
I wonder what my costumes will be.  
I hear my tap shoes clicking on the floor.  
I can see the stage.  
I want to improve my dance ability.

I am a dancer.  
I pretend I didn't mess up a step.  
I feel nervous before a recital.  
I touch the bar for warm ups  
I worry that I might mess up in stage.  
I cry when I fall down.

I am a dancer  
I know that I have to work hard to get  
better.  
I say I know the steps.  
I dream about the future.  
I try my best when I preform.  
I hope I remember the steps.  
I am a dancer.

by: maddy  
LeDoux



I am...

By: Matt McKinney

I am a hopeless Cubs fan.

I wonder if they will ever make it to the World Series.

I hear the sound of Carlos Zambrano's bat breaking over his leg.

I see Kerry Wood closing out game seven, without blowing it.

I want the Cubs to win the World Series.

I am a hopeless Cubs fan.

I pretend Steve Bartman never went to game six of the NLCS.

I feel Lou Piniella's pain.

I am a hopeless Cubs fan.

I wonder if they will ever win the World Series.

I cry when they choke once again in the last second.

I am a hopeless Cubs fan.

I understand I might not live to see the Cubs win a World Series.

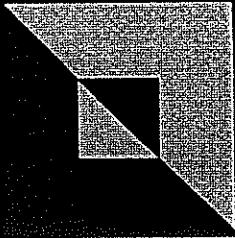
I say one year, yet I know the seasons. The truth.

I dream of Mike Fontenot hitting a walk off home run.

I am a hopeless Cubs fan.

I hope the day we see the Cubs win the World Series.

I am a hopeless Cubs fan.



# Advice For A Freshman Football Player

300's do not refer to the movie because if it did you would hate it; pennies in 20 seconds really means pennies in 10 seconds; for lineman "the barbecue" does not refer to team dinner, it refers to red stripes and aching necks; learn to read a play card; if he says flip it then flip it; if it says run a screen or down block then do it; do not walk on the field; run on the field, if you don't then you'll run 300's on the field; if

the water doesn't turn on then screw it, drink sweat; blood is inevitable, play through it; bruises are inevitable, play through them; if you're not playing your hardest then you're not getting better; don't piss

off the Hoff; don't piss off the "tough" tee; play with passion; make coaches believe that you have potential; don't skip practice, because the coaches will not mind having you skip a game for doing it; don't be a mental midget, be a perfectionist; run through the line, otherwise

you can run until you do. If you get hurt rub some dirt in it, tape it, and worry about it after practice; learn to ride the wave, it will make

your Mondays go a lot faster; don't steal from family, you will get caught and it will come back to bite you in ass; be coachable, if the coach says something then listen to it; respect your upperclassmen, because one day you will be playing with them; with every hit does

not come injury; get back up and for love of god don't show weakness; don't give people bus rides on the way home from a game; it will not work and you will be the one running not the one who got

a ride; finally don't be stupid;

**JUST LISTEN AND RESPECT!**

By: Matt Pacha

*The Blinding Absence of All Fear is Inspiration*

*I can feel I have relinquished this world, I left  
nothing  
but a muse skulking in a mist, a secret.*

*The awakened time of serenity just before  
quiet and cold solitude.  
Without companions they created there, uttering  
joyous curses of darkness.*

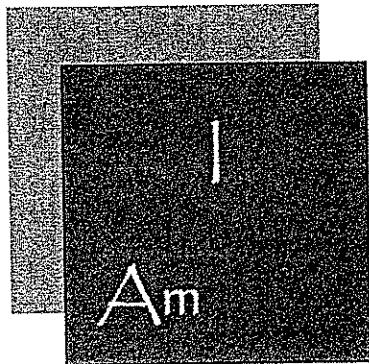
*A friend of bookstores in general, abuser of reams  
and ink  
pointing to each his destruction, crumpled paper  
and waste*

*The clear vision like joyous silence  
leave behind nights of works and backspace keys  
while watching the muses of the day mature  
on a demonic ceaseless tangent.*

*See a sentence so new and so awkward.*

*Writing itself shall endure  
if you never throw away your pen and paper.*

*Ann Abney*



I am a worldly girl with no home.

I wonder where my hometown is.

I hear the tangle of tongues conversing in different languages.

I see Weihnachtsmarkt brimming with crepes, Kartoffel-wurst and children  
doing their Christmas shopping.

I want to travel the world as if it had no end.

I am a worldly girl with no home

I pretend we are all uniquely united.

I feel the crashing waves of culture in Paris.

I touch the Boar's Mouth in Pisa, along a fairytale dream.

I worry of whom I belong to.

I cry at the injustices faced by other people, as if they were my own.

I am a worldly girl with no home.

I understand how to respect the annoying patterns of dual-language flights.

I say it's all in the pursuit of knowledge.

I dream of writing of all these tales.

I try to remember not everyone wants their culture exposed.

I hope they understand I am one of them.

I am a worldly girl with no home.

Ann Abney

Ally Ruffner

"Victory attained by VIOLENCE  
CE



is tantamount to a DEFEAT  
for it is MOMENTARY."

-Mohandas Ghandi

# The Trickery of the Floating Sea

The crew stands yet again  
On the deck of the unsullied and faultless night at sea.  
With rising crew and flapping painted signs,  
And the rags on dowels, bellying and swelling to their full size.  
They sway back and forth with the rhythm of the churning sea.  
The vessels and crews sail through the sea in their copious flotilla,  
They float through the clouds as though rising over foam from the sea;  
And they soar across the ripples of the sky.  
The crew stands yet again.

And like a squall bursting its cloudy confinement,  
Pounding like the hoofs of the mighty combatant beast,  
Arrives thou awful beasts alleging towards the vessel;  
Bearing casings packed with deceptions.  
These monsters claw and tear at the sails of the mighty vessel.

Then appears the battered war hero.  
As slow as an inebriated snail, he advances,  
Thrashing his sword mercilessly at each attacking demon,  
And off his horse, he launches, into the air.  
Readyng himself for battle against the mighty depths of the withering sky.

And alas when all demons are defeated, and after Lucifer has disappeared,  
He finds a lass at the stoop of Lucifer's domain  
Who was locked up and beaten by their lies and deceit.  
The hero knelt down and scooped her up in his arms.

In the brave man's arms she flutters and quivers,  
Like a dove with a wounded wing.  
And so he speaks to her, to awaken her from her fitful slumber,  
"O Rose, thou most beautiful blossom of all, thou aromatic marvel.  
Thou shining eyes are more of the moon than sun,  
But still hold every bit as much wonder and glory."  
And at that she awakes in his arms.

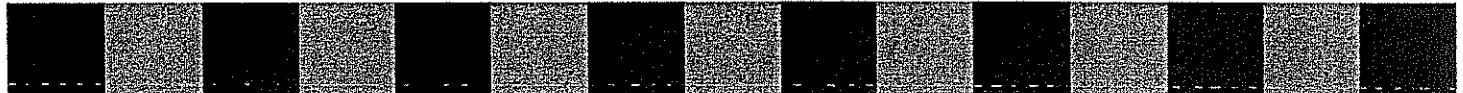
Her face has changed, scarred and bruised like rotting fruit,  
And his, is a mask of shame and pity.  
Her face, is the face of the whole world you see,  
And his is that of God's.  
He has rescued her from the claws of Lucifer, after she had wandered astray,  
And has helped her back into the light.

Her face was once sweet and unblemished by those demons power.  
But is now hardened and has been robbed of its beauty by that awful beast's lies and deceit.  
And now those demons,  
Lay round about them, scattered across the blood red sky,  
A reminder of the epic battle that has taken place between the two most powerful factors of the universe,  
Good and evil.  
And in the end, good prevailed once again,  
And is ready for the next time Lucifer rears his ugly head.

—By: Brianna Meyer

# Watch.

If you're in a public place with nothing to do, people watching will keep you busy; after all there's people everywhere. Never let them see you; they might think you're creepy. *But what if they do see me?* Just laugh and look away; they're a stranger, it doesn't really matter what they think I guess; some places are good for people watching and some places aren't; malls are good; so are busy streets; sometimes concerts aren't good for people watching. *But why not?* Because sometimes all the people look the same, since they like the same music. Some people you will always remember, even though you never knew them; the Japanese girl with short hair and cool sneakers; the French woman with the disgusting feet; the little boy gnawing on a carrot stick; after all, the world has 6 billion people; you can never know everyone; but you can always pretend to.



# Today

Michael Harry

A cheerful man exits swiftly;  
His road is less traversed than most,  
Others talked of him often.  
Some remain immortal in their wealth; while others  
silently die.

The people of the country are praying;  
While the sweeping hand of loss touches all like a  
plague.

The bank sits and waits.  
Many decimated people scream at the bank  
To their fearless leader they turn  
And a nation carefully carries on, waiting for the chaos  
to end.

## *I am...*

I am **endearing** and **independent**

I wonder what will happen in the future

I hear people calling my name

I see my family reaching toward me

I want to make them proud

I am **endearing** and **independent**

I pretend that I am without fear

I feel the pressure building up

I touch the one that holds me tight

I worry they will find me vulnerable

I cry because I feel that way

I am **endearing** and **independent**

I understand that life is not always fair

I say to myself tomorrow is a new day

I believe someday love will find me

I try to be patient until then

I hope God will grant my wishes soon

I am **endearing** and **independent**

By: Kayla Kaasa

Tennis

By: Nathan Nolan

My eyes lock with my opponent

My heart pumps as I wait for the serve

Deuce, Deuce the game is lock to Deuce

The crowd waits with wondering eyes

The serve is up; on its way

It is in and the move to my right

I have tried many years with all my might

Senior year, its down to this, one more match till the end

I hit it back, so does he back and forth will this silly game

This is state, this is the best it gets

To win it all

To be the best

## Dream of Night

Starry night winter breeze blows

Fate hovers on death's precipice

Piercing gaze of mother earth

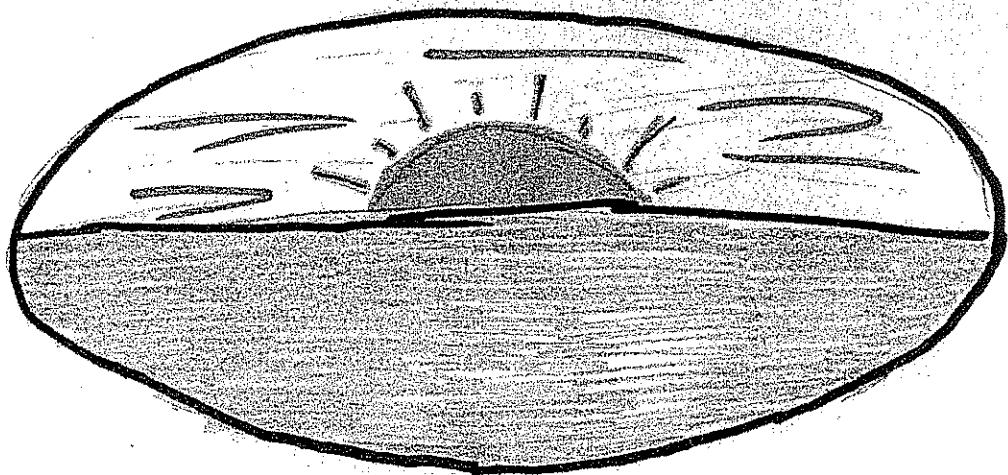
Reaches my soul in ways unimaginable

Lives lost, Lives found

Different ways my heart is bound

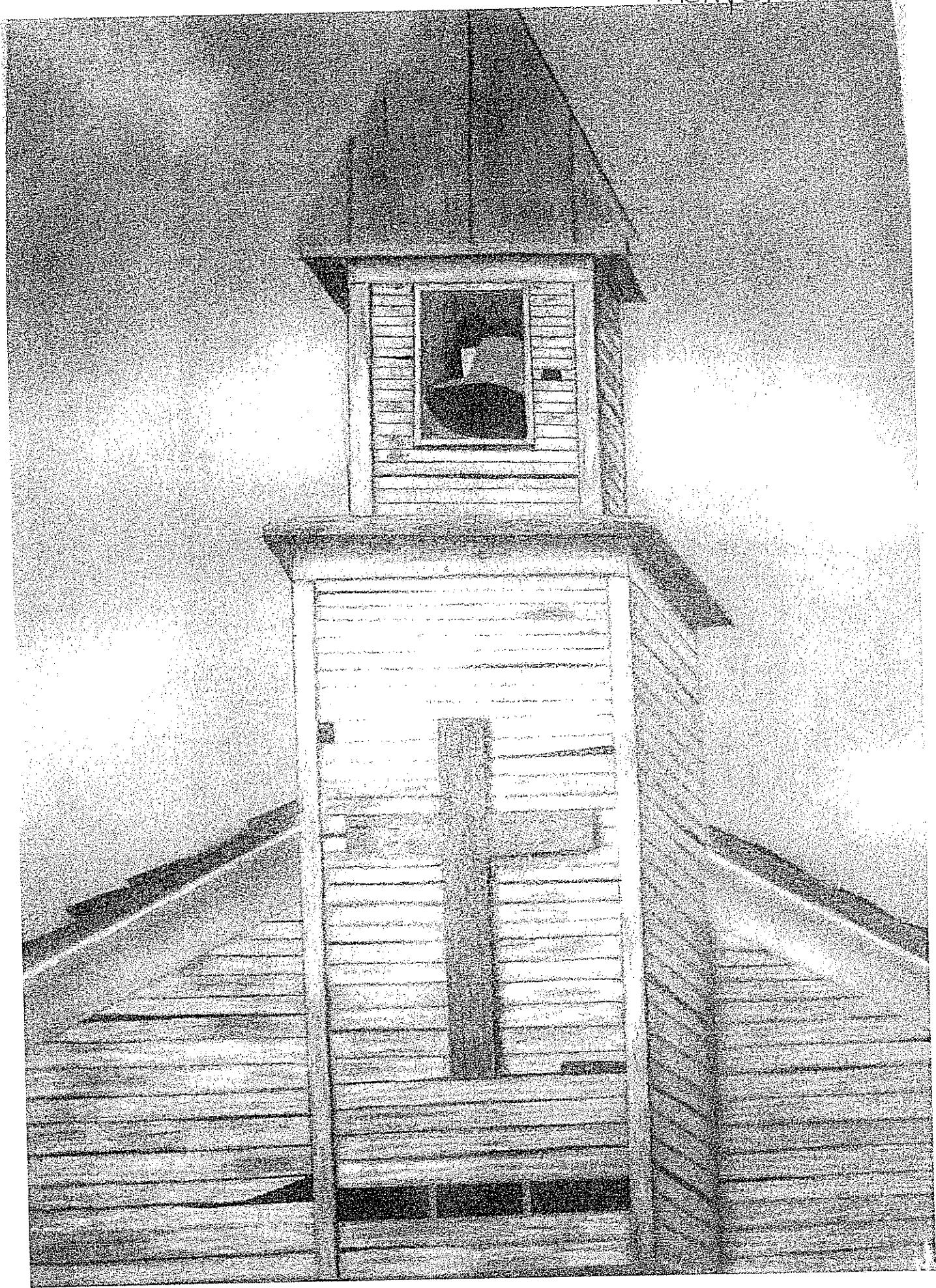
Light breaches horizon's dark wall

Dawn approach



By: Connor Kavanaugh

Molly Smith



# I am..

I am diligent and a perfectionist

I wonder what **life** has in store for me

I hear the compliments they give for my achievements

I see the **bright** future ahead of me

I want to have a **day** where nothing goes wrong

I am diligent and a perfectionist

I pretend to have it all together, when actually I'm a complete mess

I feel pleased when I'm rewarded for my hard work

I touch the life of Courtney Stonskas. =]

★ I worry that I'll let someone down

I cry if things don't always turn out the way I want them to

— I am diligent and a perfectionist

I understand that no one is perfect, though I try to be sometimes

I say, "Everything's *ok* in the end. If it's not *ok*, it's not the end."

I dream of being successful

I try my hardest in everything I do

I hope my hard work pays off

I am diligent and a perfectionist

By Michelle Wedemeyer



## I AM

I am independent and optimistic

I wonder if ill commit to maintain this way

I hear my favorite songs playing in my head

I see the exciting events that are ready to be lived

I want to live my life with no regret

I am independent and optimistic

I pretend to be part of a movie where everything turns out right

I feel the beat that life conducts

I touch my dreams that are ready to be fulfilled

I worry I might live a life without forgiveness

I cry when it seems my dreams are unfeasible

I am independent and optimistic

I understand that life may not be a fairytale

I say it is what you make it

I dream about the impossible goals that I reach for

I try converting every negative to a positive

I hope I laugh so much my stomach hurts

I am independent and optimistic

Elizabeth Poite

## Stream of Consciousness

An uncorrupted mind is a wonderful thing; living in the norm can be a horribly dull waste of time; show your true colors; let loose your complete and utter immaturity; throw all thoughts of conforming to those wonderful whistling winds; always live by the words of Ricky Martin and live la vida loca; dance around like an April Fool; let everyone know you don't care what they think; originality is something to strive for; a simple, normal life is to be avoided like the plague; give a complete stranger a hug when they are looking kind of blue; be sure to participate in silliness everyday; believe that laughter and imagination are the best medicine; use your ability to stand out like a rainbow in a room full of gray; battle it out with the urge to fit in; burst out laughing in dead silence creating a sea of happy faces (or maybe irritated ones); your opinion is the only one that truly matters; pick up a book every once in a while; while you read let the pages fly and let your imagination soar; live life to the fullest; do not go jumping out of planes unless you have a death wish; dream of pirates, genies, and unicorns; maybe even listen to the voices in your head, they might have some great ideas; laugh out loud; dream big; learn something new everyday; the yellow brick road of life has many paths to choose from which I can say with 99.9% certainty there will be no flying monkeys within; allow the songs inside the soul escape for the world to enjoy; always speak your mind but never allow your thoughts to be stolen; be the odd ball out and be proud of your individuality for it is your key to survival; never deny your true self for the phony generic you that has been seen countless times in so many others; and most importantly: always dance in the rain.

By: Kristyn Griesbach

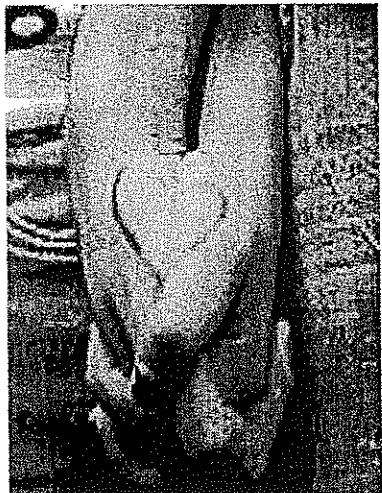


## An Argument With Parents

Take a deep breath; now take another and let it out slowly; repeat as many times as you need until you are calm enough to think, really think; your parents may be annoying, but in time, many of their seemingly dumb and irrational rules will become clear; now, when you are more rational, open your moth to speak, but make sure no one else is talking before you do; don't interrupt; that just serves to make everything worse; parents do not appreciate having someone interject into their spiel about your latest screw up, especially with snide, rude comments; because you are the only one talking, there is no need to raise your voice; that too just causes problems; as the voices get louder, the tension rises and as the tension rises, so does the anger level; no matter how angry you become, never express your anger through your favorite swear word, that just furthers your problems; how many parents like to hear their child use words that are not deemed appropriate in most places?; not many; now that you have managed to keep your voice down and the cuss works out of your dialogue, the challenge becomes keeping these good conversation skills going; when the argument begins to escalate, take a deep breath; then take another; while taking these deep breaths think, think, think; this way, you will not say something you will want to later take back; also, while you are breathing, weed our the necessary points in your argument from the irrelevant information that you feel the need to interject and then only say the necessary information; when the thought of the last time you had the same argument with you parents comes to mind, push the thought away; it can only hurt your side; *no it won't hurt; I won't even think of it, I don't care about that anymore*; even though you say that now, when you really get to arguing, it will matter; bite your tongue; what went wrong in the past conversations can be avoided here if you just listen to what your parents have to say—who knows, you may get lucky and they could contradict themselves, therefore giving you something to bring up later, when it is your turn to talk, of course; the most important items to remember when you stat your side of the argument is to be rational, keep your language under control and to think; the fun part, that is the cussing and complaining about how big of jerks of jerks your parents are comes later, when you are telling the entire event to you friends.

Amanda Ploof

## The Wonder of Summer Love



I see the beauty, like summer nights and careful first love-

Two figures sway as a radio plays in cool, night air.  
You greeted me with care, your smiling, bright face.

I listened to your hopes and dreams in the night,  
Our feet clumsily stepping in the moon's shine.

When conversations quieted and dreams were told  
You danced with me, staring down at your feet.

Both of our hearts beat faster in time.

The ever-glowing light inside my soul, showed its true self to you and the stars.

Now we lie here, feet in the water, hoping these moments would stand still forever.

But a brighter horizon awakened the day, and a darker twilight has yet to send it away.



Love is a thing of stories, the thing children dream about.

Our love blooms as the world turns round.

Our relationship grows stronger with understanding.

My love is as endless as the night sky, my devotion like shining stars.

It is the desire of the heart, the determination behind my work.

A path beside the road that we both turned to follow.

The path where our turning, twisting lives will meet;

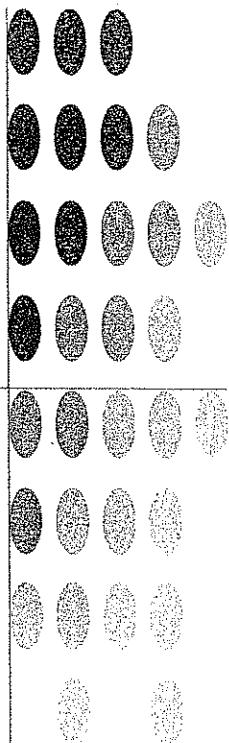
Where you and I shall go, young and care free.

Go carefully; you go with my heart,

For the people we care for we will always remember



-Kayla Kaasa



# Through Darkness

**A shabby, damaged scamp I saw  
As his darkness grew, the earth betrayed  
him**

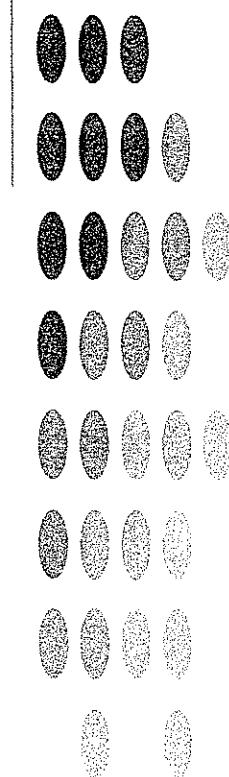
**He relieves his pain into the abyss  
He sensed all harmony in the depths  
His intellect he obtained in death's gates  
The chaos of the dark frightened even he  
Through the rushing night he collects a  
star for his true love**

**Conquering the pain on earth and moon,  
he fought till dawn**

**He rose up with light and understanding  
He found his heart unfaithful to her  
through me**

**He lives unto this earth as he lives unto me  
We shall return together, as one**

**By: Kristyn Griesbach**



# Cheer For Your Life

Keep your wrists tight and turned out. Do not keep your wrist out when throwing up a liberty. When you flyer falls from that lib you threw up, CATCH HER OR YOU WILL

GET YELLED AT! After you drop her so many times, you stunt group will get switched out for another group that isn't falling. Now you will get yelled at (by your flyer) because your not the center group

anymore. Go to all practices if you choose not to listen to me, then you will get stuck flowering in front. "*What's flowering??*" The girls that look dumb standing in front that no one pays attention to. When you don't go to practice , you don't cheer. The coach gets very upset when you don't go to practice. At practice bring water and your shorts and your spankies (everyone will thank you) and your cheer shoes and a clean tee-shirt and tank top for when you get hot because you will get hot. You will work very hard these 3 hours. You will stretch, run, stretch (again more intensely), jump, do kicks, do abs, lunges, pushups, work your butt off stunting, yell, be yelled at, and ~~loose~~ absolutely all of your energy. But cheerleaders need to have energy, so PERK UP!

# Imagine

This is how you imagine; open your mind to your surroundings, think like no other; paint a picture of the unreal, the surreal; be crazier than any other person—alive or dead; keep fast to the ties of your creative mind—never let them waver; this is what makes you special, unique; let this side show, to yourself, anyone, everyone, just let it out! Express yourself however possible; Dance! Sing! Write! Draw! Create! Imagine the world upside down, on it's side, at an angle; view everything from a different angle; think outside the box, your comfort zone, the world, the universe; just think; think of weird objects, creatures, or even conversations; have you ever had an imaginary friend? *Well of course I have, but that was years ago;* Why only years ago and not now, too? Did a material friend laugh, jab, tease? Or perhaps a sibling, parent, grandparent, cousin, family friend convinced you of craziness for talking to air—the bad, insane, no one wants to be around you crazy, not the good, creative, imaginative crazy; well this is how to get your friend and imagination back; create, believe, hope, imagine!

By Amanda Blanche

# I Am

I am a Red Sox fan, devoted and always negative towards other teams.

I wonder how our pitching staff is going to hold up for the year to come.

I hear the shouts of mad Yankees when the spankies lose.

I see David Ortiz hitting a grand slam when we are down by two in the bottom of the ninth.

I want another World Series.

I am a Red Sox fan, devoted and always negative towards other teams.

I pretend that I am Kevin Cash hitting a two run double again Tampa Bay in the game to go to the World Series while I'm in the shower.

I feel the old of October that the playoffs bring.

I touch my Red Sox hat hoping that Josh Beckett will get the strike out.

I worry that we won't win the first game of the playoffs.

I cry when the Red sox don't make it to the World Series.

I am a Red Sox fan, devoted and always negative towards other teams.

I understand when we need to take out Tim Wakefield at the top of the fifth.

I say we will get it next year when we don't make it to the World Series.

I dream about playing for Boston.

I try to make every playoff game with my dad to support our team.

I hope we can win more World Series than the Yankees.

I am a Red Sox fan, devoted and always negative towards other teams.

By: Jake Garnette B-3

# A Thousand Words

**PAIGE EWERS**

Flash!

In less than a second it's done.

Pose.

Smile.

Snap.

It's over.

A photograph can say so much with so little.  
Except it never truly captures what's important.

Feelings.

Emotions.

Thoughts.

Are what is not expressed.

They say a photograph is worth a thousand words.

Is it really?

What about the other thousands of words?

# I Am

I am an absorbed bookworm

I wonder if the story will leave its pages, for

I hear the distinctive voices all around

I see their features plain and clear, and that is why

I want them to be more than words

I am an absorbed bookworm

I pretend to be part of it all

I feel the emotions raging through me

I touch the pages, hoping to go through

I worry when the characters worry

I cry when their pain becomes too much,

I am an absorbed bookworm

I understand books are only entertaining stories, but

I say they could be more

I dream they are as real as me, so

I try to make them come alive, yet I find

I hope they will not, for only as words will they remain forever

I am an absorbed bookworm

Amanda Blanche

## How Not to Raise a Kid

I let my kid do anything he wants; watch tv past midnight, eat junkfood for dinner, watch naughty movies; my kid stays out as late as he wants to; drinking, getting high, driving around all he wants, and I have no problem with it; it's what I did when I was a kid and I don't see why I shouldn't let my kid do that? I let my kid boss me around, get him something to eat, make his bed, put his clothes away, even do some of his homework for him—it doesn't really matter who does it as long as it's done, right?—I just figure that it's in his best interest and it can't hurt him in the long run; I would run and do errands for him, get him food, buy supplies for school for him, even shop for clothes for him; I just figure that he's always busy and I don't want him to overwork himself; I always trust him to do the right thing; I let him stay out way past curfew, borrow money for me without telling me what it's for, I leave my liquor cabinet unlocked all the time; I know my kid, he never will do anything bad; I raise my kid the way that I think one should be raised, and I think I'm doing a very good job; if anyone has any comments on how I should be raising him, my ears are open; until then, I'll go my way and everyone else can go theirs.

*Will Aden*

# Children of all Water and Earth

by:  
marianne Hart

The sunrise painted the previously lightless sky with gold

The massive sun illuminated the earth below

The sun acts in an orderly manner, controlling all beneath

All creature obey the sun's schedule

As the sun rose, the happy children awoke and basked in the sun

They stood wiggling their little-toes in the bright green grass

The wind felt like a warm tickle through their hair

The whooshing wind gently whirled while they sat and relaxed

The heath holds life, but there's magic in the clouds

The butterflies fluttered higher than a million mile mountain!

Delicate petals from a pink rose danced all around the earth

The ocean—where fish swim, and waves are created

How they loved to hear the splash-splash of the waves

They are thee children of all water and earth

Like the great oak, they too are a part of this gentle land

Soon, the sky's light will disappear and this day will draw to an  
end

They embrace the sun-filled day, and dread the dark cold night

# Thoughts

Imagine life from the outside.

Everyday becomes ingrained, as if a monotonous routine.

All insecurities get packed away;

Hidden in the layers of soul.

Nurture small world ambition.

Anything I can aspire I can accomplish.

Optimistic about the knowledge of a better life.

I am a force behind my destiny.

Life may be small, but live it large,

The end might come too soon.

Cherish everything; absorb it like a sponge.

Do not wish for a redo, do not hold back.

In a world full of distractions, it's hard to think clearly.

Listening to the unspoken voices crowding my head.

On the brink of losing my mind.

I am different, deceiving, doubtful, daring; I am me.

Kelli Golinghorst

# Words

By: Kelsey Meier

These words unspoken

Could mean a lifetime of sadness

These words unspoken could mean a multitude of regrets

These words unspoken

Could mean an unfulfilled life

These words unspoken

Could mean hurt loved ones

These words unspoken once left unspoken,

Can never be heard.

## The Cake

They left me to bake the cake.

My confidence was weak.

I collected the ingredients.

The beaters tugged at the batter

As they went round and round.

Millions of torn pieces of brown chocolate.

Sprinkles, like jewels shining in the sun.

Spoonful upon spoonful, I added frosting.

Eyes fell on the delicious cake,

As I cut it into pieces.

For them it was like bam!

Not a piece was saved.

*Will Allen*

# *Determination*

Am

I am driven and determined to be the very best. I wonder, what is it I have to do in top, to hear the denial and the ones who say "you can't." I see the barrier, I feel the drag, araging within my mind. I want to be remembered.

I am driven and determined.

I pretend there is no pain.

I feel the hurt of emotions of others who travel this path with me. I touch my inner consciousness.

I worry that I'll grow tired of what I love.

I cry on the inside so to never show weakness.

I am driven and determined.

I understand that to go the extra mile makes all the difference.

I say I will do anything to get there.

I dream of rising above all.

I try and always give one hundred percent.

I hope this can become a reality.

I am driven and determined.

John Davison

*The ability to see past challenge rather than just staring at it*

## I Am

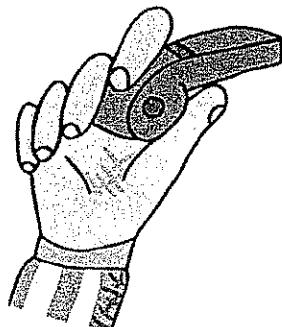
I am anxious and alert.

I wonder what I was like at their age.

I hear the laughter behind their smiles.

I want to be little and carefree again.

I am anxious and alert.



I pretend I have no worries.

I feel the rubber seams beneath my fingers.

I touch the net for good luck.

I worry that I will forget to blow the whistle.

I cry inside when a kid falls down.

I am anxious and alert.

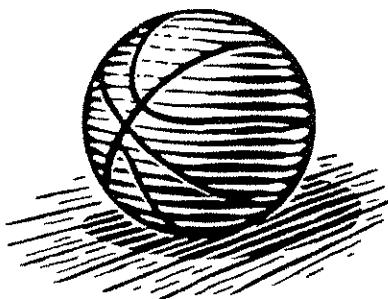
I understand now, what it is like from the referee's point of view.  
I say the pledge with the children at the beginning of each game.

I try to do my personal best.

I dream of how they will be in the future.

I hope that they continue playing sports and never forget to have fun.

I am anxious and alert.



By: Brianna Meyer

# The Lovable Loser

Will Aden

I am a Cub's fan, devoted and always positive.

I wonder about next year.

I hear the roar of the crowd after a playoff win.

I see champagne bottles being sprayed.

I want just one World Series win.

I am a Cub's fan, devoted and always positive.

I pretend I'm watching the final game of the World Series.

I feel the pain when we get so close every year.

I touch my Cub's hat thinking about next year.

I worry about every game they play.

I cry after every playoff loss.

I am a Cub's fan, devoted and always positive.

I understand the countless curses.

I say wait 'til next year.

I dream of that one World Series win.

I try to keep the dream alive.

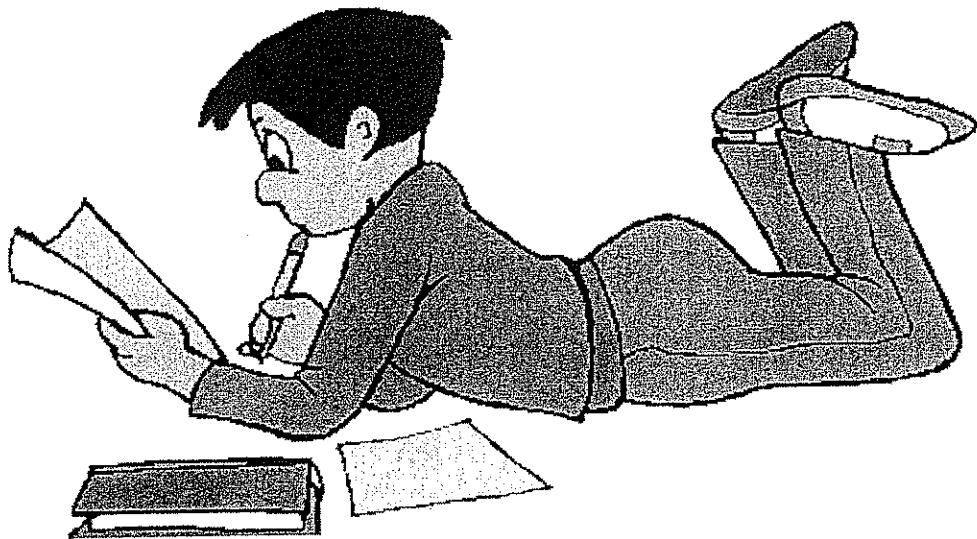
I hope for the one win that will disprove all of the curses.

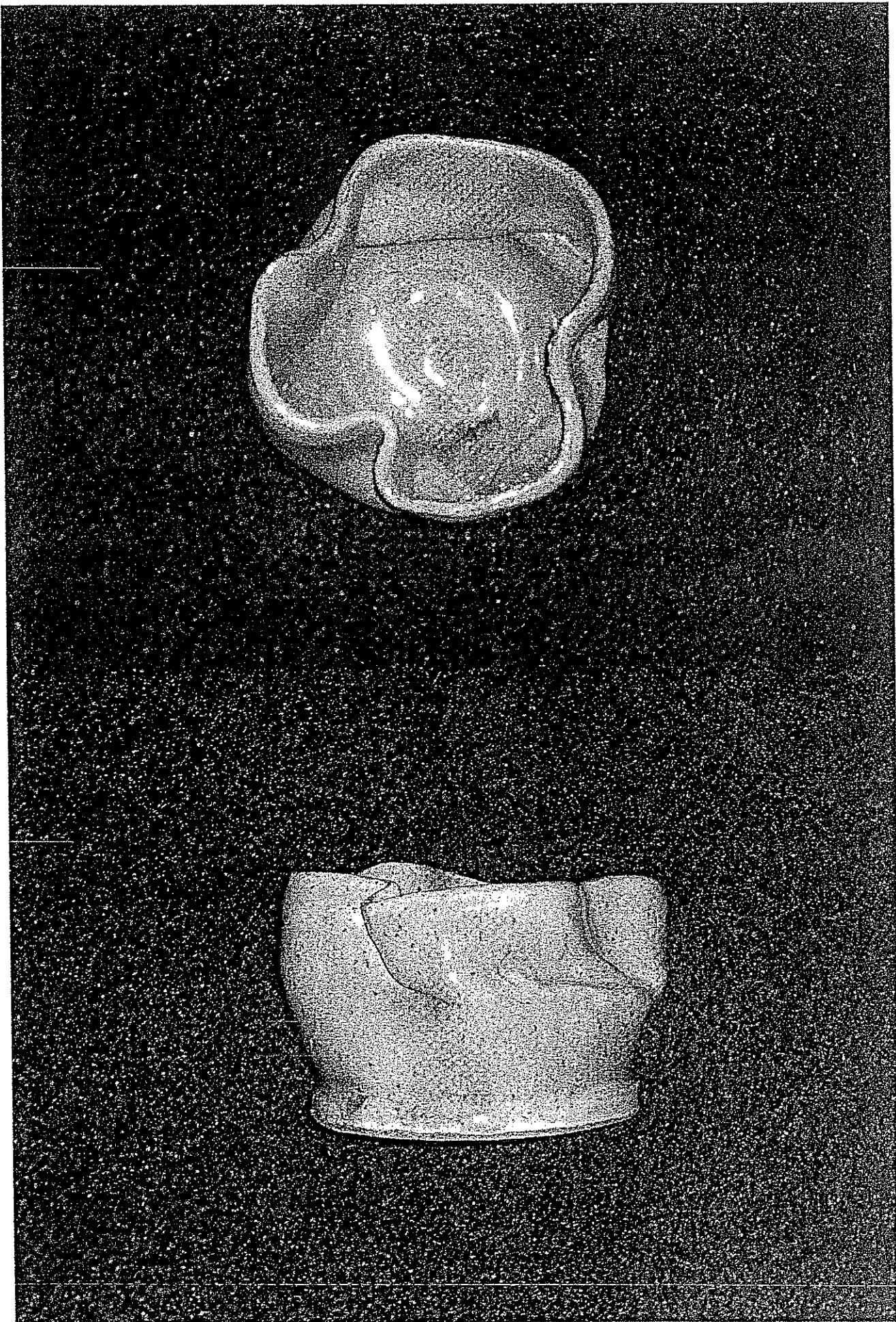
I am a Cub's fan, devoted and always positive.

# How to survive High School

**Always do your homework, always come to school, if you don't you fail, stay out of the way of upper classman, don't let upper-classman push you around, always listen to your teachers, if you don't listen to your teachers they will yell in your ear, make the most of high school, have fun, know that there is no such things as too much fun, do all of the extra credit, be the best you can be, and always have fun.**

By: Ryan Greenwood

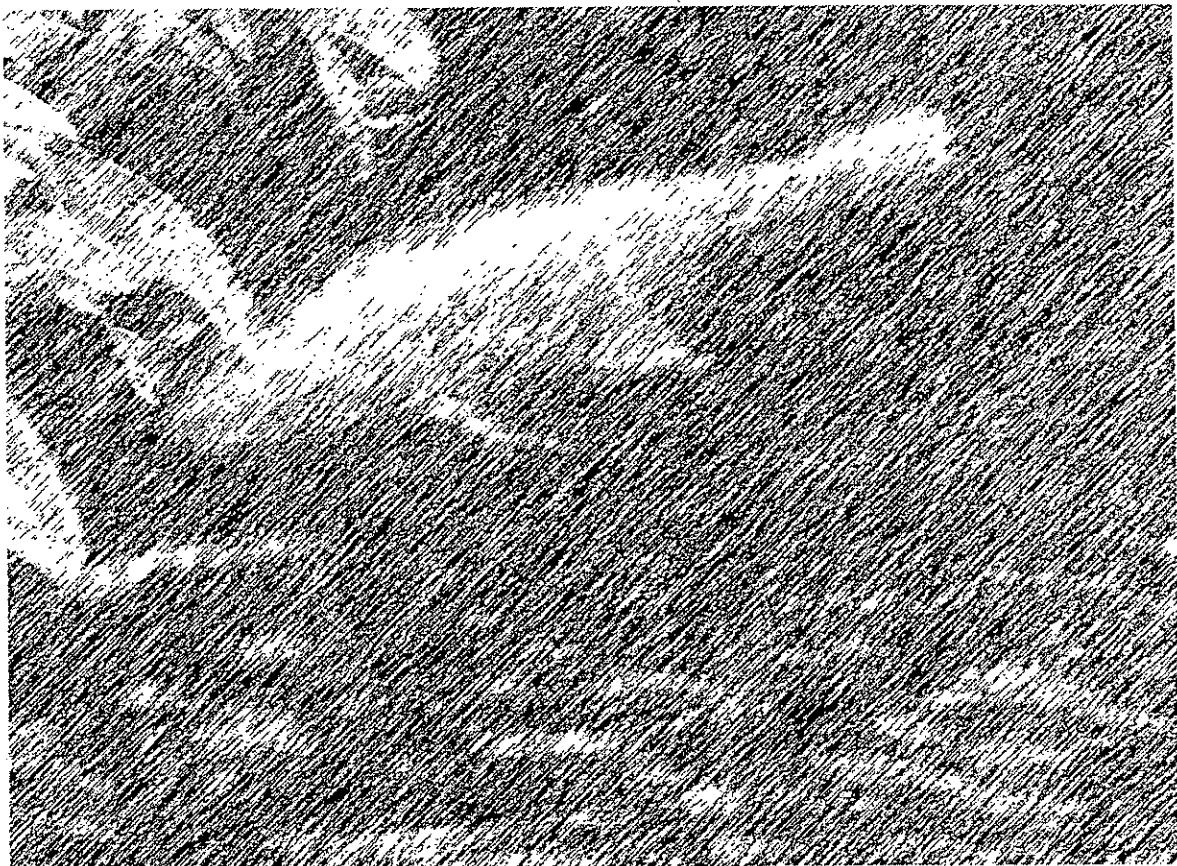




Invisible  
By: Samantha Dickey

You are invisible, losing love can make you lost, having no friends, you have no past, being lonely without a friend, leaving behind all the good trends, being invisible, with no one but you, making you do things you do not want to do, being a girl, being a boy, trying so hard just to fit in, nothing you do is ever good for them, being there then here, you never know which one to fear, hiding somewhere where they can not find you, there is no one there to back you up, you are all alone, people care only about themselves; you are stuck, standing in place of your old self, never thinking, every thought only about you, you can not give in, staying strong is all you can manage, you need to be free, stay alive in your heart and mind, there is no one but you and your mind, having just one life to live, You are invisible, you are all alone, there is a light at the end, there can be no one but you there, having to think is having no thought, losing your words because you just got caught, sticking alone with your shadow and your imaginary friend, having no words to say, you are close, step by step you take, losing your mind to your imagination, saying that you mean it when you really do not, the world is in the universe, you can make it if you try, be there when no one else can, having to make the world your life, you are here yet you are not, your mind is a rebel in your own body, your heart can beat without you, having no one is like having to wait, you can see the sun yet you see the moon, you have no friends, there can be no one but you, you are alone no one believes in you; you are invisible, seeing the wind is like seeing the rain, trying to fit in while being the same, there can be no one but you, you are what you are and no one can change the fact of life,

You are Invisible



I Am

I am talented and approachable

I wonder about my future

I hear my voice together with the sound of a baby grand

I see my fingers pluck each pitch perfectly

I want to sing my heart out

I am talented and approachable

I feel proud of who I am

I touch all the dreams I achieve

I worry about the plans God has for me

I cry as I get frustrated with the task ahead

I am talented and approachable

I understand I am very reliable

I say I can be a great role-model and leader to my community and peers

I try my best in absolutely everything

I hope that one day I can peak with my potential

I am talented and approachable

**Audrey McDermott**

# *Wyrd*

All that was once beautiful is now dead  
And Evil have won most the land from the just  
But today the last battle will wage. . .

He went out at early morn,  
He who has fought in the kingdom of old,  
To watch the approaching army through the fog  
But soon they arrived and he drew his sword

He hacked and he slashed  
And cut down all in his path  
He was a fearsome enemy  
And let none pass

But then He advanced  
The menacing Shade, the walking Ghost  
With darkness emanating from his eyes!

The man jumped on the monster's back and swung his sword  
But the glorious creature flicked him off  
and took his chance to pierce the man,  
Whose armor screamed as the sword ricocheted off

Shock raced across the  
Shade's face as the man rose  
Swords crashed like thunder  
And sent burning sparks to the sky

But the Shade fatally wounded the man  
And with his dying strength,  
The man plunged his blade into the Shade's heart

The Art of Wrestling  
Adam Perrin

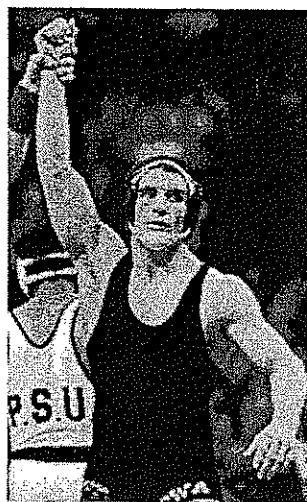
To be a champion, it makes it that much harder  
I think of the nature of nerves, knowing  
So quickly, the match could change  
And I cannot let the nerves slow me down

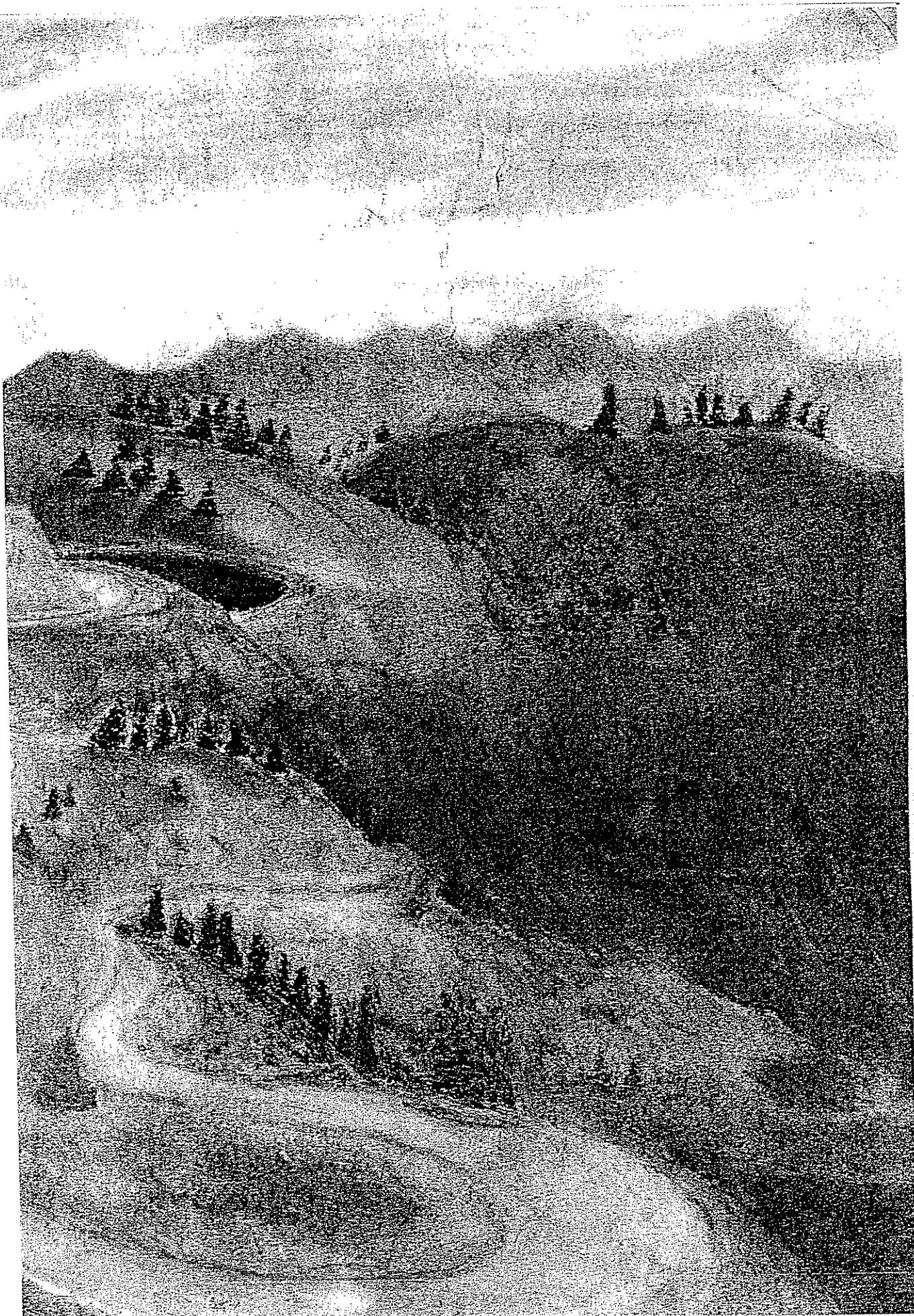
My opponent looks at me vaguely,  
Swallowing his bloody spit  
Staring at my red singlet  
He walks in confidence like a lion

Dim lights shining right on us  
The color of the mat is red and gray  
I met him in his pride beneath the American Flag  
And he lives where the best grow, Iowa.

A long thought of winning and losing  
The focus between us cannot be interrupted  
My confidence is right where it needs to be  
Controlling him, my opponent is my slave

Now fades his confidence on the spot  
And he grew weak like a baby lamb  
A divine champion exhales in relief  
I celebrate with my friends and family





bu: Taylor Horsley

# I Am

I am a Lancer football player

I wonder when our time to win state will come

I hear the crowd going wild as we walk down the tunnel

I see the field underneath the lights

I want to pancake anyone who gets in my way

I am a lancer football player

I pretend to be calm as I wait to take the field

I feel a rush of adrenaline as I walk down the tunnel

I touch the laces before I snap

I worry about how my play will affect others

I cry when I see my teammates' faces after a hard loss

I am a Lancer football player

I understand what it takes to win

I say that there is no better game to play

I dream about holding that trophy above my head

I hope we will still be playing by this time next year

I try my hardest every game

I am a Lancer football player.

Grayson Schmidt

By Alaina Hill



Photo By: Alaina Hill

## Footsteps and Hoofbeats

I am nature's heartbeat, the rhythm of the earth

I wonder if I can live up to my potential

I hear the trees whispering weather warnings

I see the clouds bringing in the summer storm

I want to hide myself in your warm brown eyes

I am nature's heartbeat, the rhythm of the earth

I pretend that I am brave and strong

I feel the wind singing sorrowful laments

I touch the wind, finding it in your mane

I worry you will take off with it one day

I cry at the thought of you leaving without me

I am nature's heartbeat, the rhythm of the earth

I understand that there is never an easy path

I say I will not expect one

I dream of finding one anyway, your lead rope leading me

I try to go on as best I can

I hope that I will find the end of my path one day

I am nature's heartbeat, the rhythm of the earth



I AM



I am a sojourner, a seeker of the truth

I wonder how far I will make it

I hear the agonized wails as dreams go up in smoke

I see the winners; the conquerors, as they rise to the top

I want to be one of those winners

I am a sojourner, a seeker of the prize

I pretend that I know the answer

I feel like I could make it to the top

I touch the glass ceiling

I worry as to what this means; can I break through?

I cry every time I see another unsuccessful traveler crash to the ground

I am a sojourner, a seeker of the prize

I understand that everyone hits these ceilings

I say that I can handle it, that I can overcome

I dream of what I see on the other side

I try to break through

I hope that I hear the glass cracking

I am a sojourner, a seeker of the prize

*-Travis Reed*



Jake Hall

# Friendship

By: Abbie Cahill

The arms of friendship  
our faces gleam with laughter  
we are tempted to stop in  
while  
friends have smiles like  
the darkness  
they have touched  
thoughts  
as a lonesome friend  
the caring companion  
lonely  
our truest friends are  
worst of times  
while friendships can  
an eternity

forever surround me  
and smiles  
that moment and stay for a  
stars, always shining through  
my soul with sounds of their life  
hates the deafening silence  
came along the rescue the  
those that remain during the  
fade, these memories last for

